Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 290 | THURSDAY OCTOBER 16, 2008 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

19 DAYS TO GO BEFORE ELECTION DAY

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Are you concerned about the financial crisis affecting the United States?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

16 DAYS without a government budget for FY 2009

INSIDE

Wildfires

Gusty Santa Ana winds sent the biggest of southern California's wildfires flaring in hilly brushlands.

NATION...Page 14

Streetbeat Redux

Streetbeat, the most popular band ever to perform at Saipan Grand Hotel's Club V, is back on the island for a return engagement.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 18

NMI turns down seat at climate change forum. PAGE 2

Senators grill Pai in confirmation hearing. PAGE 6

Heavy rain triggers flooding

JAYVEE VALLEJERA/JACKIE DELA CRUZ

Heavy rain yesterday afternoon overwhelms Saipan's drainage system, resulting in many areas being flooded.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A trough of high pressure dumped more than 2 inches of rain on the CNMI yesterday afternoon, overwhelming Saipan's drainage system and resulting in many areas being flooded until last night.

However, no major flood-related accident was reported on the island, according to Emergency Management Office public information officer Juan T. Camacho.

"Right now the [EMO] and Department of Public Works are opening up drainages in some parts that are flooded and where cars are not accessible," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* late yesterday afternoon.

See HEAVY on Page 4

Forum puts delegate contenders in hot seat

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Eight of the candidates vying to serve as the CNMI's first non-voting congressional delegate stood shoulder to shoulder in a forum Tuesday night that put each of them in the hot seat without any idea what question would come next.

As the forum began, moderator Jon Anderson of Bridge Capital disclosed that candidate David Cing would be absent for the event and details later emerged that Cing had suspend-

See FORUM on Page 4

STEFAN SEBASTIAN

Candidates to serve as the CNMI's first non-voting congressional delegate answered questions in a forum hosted by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night at the Fiesta Resort.

DPL Secretary slams Taotao Tano

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

DelRosario

Changes in the race to serve as the CNMI's first non-voting congressional delegate could be on the horizon after former senator David Cing suspended this week his campaign amid allegations that his brother gained a large plot of homestead land through nepotism.

This comes even as Department of Public Lands Secretary John S. DelRosario blasted Taotao Tano for what he called the "moronically baseless" allegations of impro-

See DPL on Page 4

L.A. judge dismisses case against Miura

By LINDA DEUTSCH
AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge on Tuesday formally dismissed the case against a Japanese businessman who hanged himself in a jail cell while awaiting trial for allegedly plotting his wife's death 27 years ago during a visit to Los Angeles.

Kazuyoshi Miura, 61, was found dead Friday, four days before he was to be arraigned on a charge of conspiring to commit murder. A police report indicated no foul play is

See L.A. JUDGE on Page 4

Local

NMI turns down seat at climate change forum

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

APIA, Samoa—The CNMI will be one of the few jurisdictions in the Pacific without a voice at this week's Pacific Climate Change Roundtable, a four-day forum meant to bring together representatives from Pacific Islands to share regional and international actions on climate change.

Invitations were sent out to delegates from the Pacific Island nations and the U.S. territories in the Pacific, including the CNMI, but the Commonwealth was one of the few not to respond to the invite, said Espen Ronneberg, Climate Change Adviser for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

SPREP is a regional organization based in Apia that is charged with protecting and managing the region's environ-

See NMI on Page 4

CUC gets proposals from 2 firms for overhaul work

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has received proposals from two companies that are interested in overhauling two engines at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base that were left undone by a previous contractor.

CUC executive director Antonio Muña told *Saipan Tribune* that they received two proposals and that one is much higher than the other.

"It looks like the lower proposal may be responsive. But we need to sit down with them and ensure that we have an understanding of exactly what we are looking for and there's no misunderstanding," Muna said.

CUC put out in the latter part of July the emergency Request for Proposals for the overhaul work on power engines no. 5 and 7.

CUC is looking at generating 22 megawatts from these engines when overhaul work is completed.

CUC initiated the emergency RFP after it terminated the contract of the previous contractor, Guam-based DCM Group, in July 2008 after the company reportedly failed to repair the generators as required by the $5.1 million deal.

Muña said the power engines working at Power Plant 1 right now are engines 3, 6, and 8.

"Right now we're looking at 15 megawatts essentially from those three engines or about 5 megawatts from each," the official said.

October Specials
Motorola SLVR L7C
(CDMA)
$159.00*
Postpaid
Receive one Saipancell Beach Chair with every purchase (Postpaid Only)
$29.00
Prepaid Includes:
$20.00 prepaid card
$5.00 Long Distance Card
Kyocera K112
SAIPANCELL COMMUNICATIONS
The Choice is Clear.
483-CARE(2273) www.saipancell.com TYPHOON PROVEN
*For Saipan only. Some Conditions Apply. 12 Month Agreement Required. Applies to New Activations Only. Valid until October 18th or while Supplies last.
GUALO RAI • MITA TRAVEL, BEACH ROAD GARAPAN

Emergency shutdown of two power engines causes outage

The emergency shutdown of two power engines at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base triggered outages in some areas on Saipan Tuesday.

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio Muña said yesterday that due to the emergency shutdown, CUC was unable to temporarily generate adequate electrical power to meet the island demand.

Muna said that on Tuesday at 1am power engine no. 3 at Power Plant 1 was shut down for emergency repairs on cylinder head no. 12 due to a damaged exhaust valve. He said the mechanical repair was completed at 5pm that day.

Power engine no. 6, on the other hand, was shut down Friday for emergency repair on the turbocharger support. Repair work was completed Tuesday at 5:30pm.

Muna said the high temperature also contributed to the difficulties as the high peak demand exceeded the available generation.

The CUC official said the problems affected the power supply at Feeder 1 or the areas in Upper Miha, Duty Free lateral and upper Chinatown lateral from 11:30am to 1:07pm.

Also affected was the power supply at Feeder 2 or the areas at Tony Roma's Restaurant to Microl-Intersection in San Jose from 12:52pm to 1:56pm.

"CUC apologizes for any inconvenience this emergency outage schedule has imposed on the community and will work diligently to minimize the interruption," Muña said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CNMI dancers participate in Guam Micronesia Island Fair

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The cream of the crop of the region's culture and arts scene are currently gathering at the Governor Joseph Flores Memorial Park in Guam for the 21st Guam Micronesia Island Fair slated Oct. 17-19.

The venue is at the Ypao Beach Park, located on Pale San Vitores in Tumon, Guam.

Representing the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands are the Welippal Cultural Dancers, along with three band members, the Talabwog women Stick Dancers, and six artists each from Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Cecilia Celes is heading the CNMI delegation.

Also accompanying the group are Council for Arts and Culture director Ramona Rebuenog and two arts coordinators and three chaperones.

The annual fair is the biggest cultural event in Guam, hosted by the Guam Visitors Bureau.

This year, the event will be focusing on seafaring traditions, with Micronesia's master canoe builders gathering to showcase their art in tribute to 2008 being the Year of the Proa, the local word for the handcrafted seagoing canoes of Guam and Micronesia.

The fair brings together entrepreneurs, manufacturers, traditional artists, cultural performers, national tourism offices of each island nation, island residents and visitors to the island of Guam. This year's central theme is "Celebrating our Seafaring Traditions."

A collaboration of master carvers will showcase traditional canoes and the art of canoe building that were the cornerstone of the region's seafaring traditions.

The opening ceremonies will be on Friday, Oct. 17, starting at 5pm until 9pm. It will run on Saturday, Oct. 18, and Sunday, Oct. 19, from 12pm-9pm.

The official closing ceremony will be held at 4pm but entertainment will continue until 9pm.

Participants from previous events included delegation from Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia (Yap, Chuuk, Guam, Kiribati, Kosrae), Nauru, CNMI and Marshall Islands.

Most of the exhibition booths have items for sale that represent their island's arts and crafts.

Last year's featured items include agricultural produce and livestock exhibits, concession stands, and a petting zoo for the youngsters.

Some of the expected attractions are display of skills in coconut husking and grating, tree climbing, spear throwing, crab races, weaving, and outrigger paddling.

Dewitt laments lack of music teachers on Saipan

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the abundance of musical talent among CNMI students, there is a serious lack of music teachers who could help develop and bring out these talents, according to William Dewitt of Saipan Southern High School.

In a presentation before members of the Saipan Rotary Club yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Dewitt, who is also the musical director of the Manta Band, said: "There's a lot of musical talent among the CNMI students but there's a dearth of music teachers to train and nurture these talents."

"We don't have qualified teachers in other schools right now," added Dewitt.

He said he would love to extend his commitment to develop the musical ability of other students in other schools but with over 120 members in his band, he can only do so much.

He said there's also the lack of musical instruments to cater to the students' needs. Right now, he said, they want to have a drum set, which costs up to $8,000.

"We [also] need more woodwind instruments," Dewitt said. "Right now we have 80 brass instruments and about 40 to 50 woodwind instruments."

Dewitt and eight members of the Manta Band represented the CNMI during the Opening Ceremonies for the Beijing Olympics. "We were the last group of the 2,008 musicians that were part of the opening ceremonies," Dewitt said.

The group made it to the event after the Manta Band won the Gold Award at Guam's 2008 Tumon Bay Music Festival in March this year.

That success, Dewitt said, was mostly because of the dedication of the band members. He said they began grueling daily practices in January 2008, always early in the morning before classes begin. The students

See DEWITT on Next Page

Safety of skaters at new park examined

Some members of the Rotary Club of Saipan have expressed concern about the safety of youngsters who are using the club's latest project, a Skate Park, which has yet to officially open.

The newly constructed $15,000 project is to be inaugurated sometime this month.

In yesterday's regular meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, members discussed safety issues after learning that some kids have already begun regularly practicing at the facility

Rotarian Dennis Yoshimoto, who co-chairs the skate park project along with Laurie Peterka, said he would seriously look into this matter.

He said the facility is in fact still under construction. "We're still waiting for the solar panels that would power the lights around the area," Yoshimoto explained.

He said the lighting system is the only part of the project that is not completed. He said that once the solar panels arrive and are installed, they would be happy to announce to the public the project's opening.

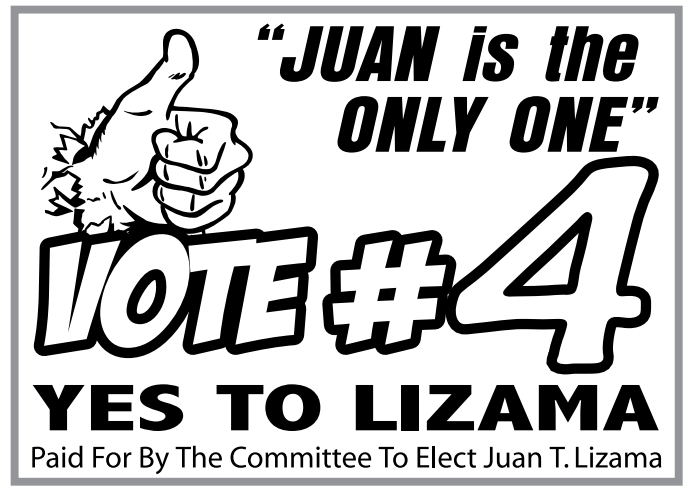
Yoshimoto appealed to the kids, saying, "We ask their cooperation and patience."

The Skate Park, which is the first of its kind on Saipan, is expected to draw more youngsters to this kind of leisure activity.

I-SK8 Society started planning for the skate park project in 2006.

They hired skate park specialist John Glaze from Indonesia in August to oversee the construction of the project.

The Rotary took on the project after realizing the great risks children face when skating on public roads. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***



Palms Resort Saipan
Sunday Brunch
Every Sunday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
$20.00 Adult / $15.00 Child (4-11 years old)
20% Local discount applicable
$15.00 Senior Citizen
Local discount not applicable
San Roque Club Members & Buddy Card Holders WELCOME
Duplicate Discount Not Applicable
For reservation, call 670-322-3311

Shell lowers gas prices—again

Shell has once again lowered its fuel prices, this time by 10 cents a gallon, to reflect the decline in the price of crude in the world market.

In a statement issued yesterday, Eloy Lizama, president of Shell Guam said the price reduction would affect their Shell Unleaded and Shell Premium gasoline and Shell Diesel fuel.

"From our most recent price reduction, Shell's average cost of Regular Unleaded, Premium and Diesel fuel products has declined impacting our combined local cost of product. Shell will pass these savings onto our customers. Shell will lower the price of our Shell Regular Unleaded, Shell Premium gasoline and Shell Diesel tonight," he said in the statement issued late afternoon yesterday.

Lizama indicated that the price decrease will be posted at Shell service stations as of midnight last night. ***(PR)***

SHELL PRICES

REGULAR	
Self-service	$4.18
Full service	$4.40
PREMIUM	
Self-service	$4.35
Full service	$4.56
Diesel	$5.09

*Prices based on previous listings. Price change had not gone take effect at press time.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Belated happy wedding anniversary go out to Willy and Josie Espinosa. The couple celebrated their special day yesterday, Oct. 14. Greetings from your grandchildren, Christopher and Christine.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

L.A. JUDGE

From Page 1

suspected and that Miura did not leave a note.

The coroner has yet to state a cause of death.

The case became a sensation in Japan, where it was known as "the Japanese O.J. case," in reference to former U.S. football star O.J. Simpson, who was acquitted in 1995 of murdering his ex-wife and her friend. Many Japanese journalists swarmed the hallway Tuesday outside the courtroom where Miura's arraignment had been scheduled.

Miura was last seen alive by an officer who checked his jail cell Friday night. Less than 10 minutes later, a detention officer found him hanging "with a ligature around his neck at one end of the bunk bed," according to a police report attached to the dismissal order.

Police have said the ligature was made from pieces of Miura's shirt.

The judge's dismissal order, requested by the Los Angeles County district attorney's office, capped a case that included several bizarre twists.

NMI

From Page 2

ment and natural resources.

Fiji was another location that did not respond to an invite from SPREP. Guam will have a delegate in attendance, Ronneberg said.

Delegates from the Pacific attending the roundtable, which is sponsored by the Switzerland government, will work to come up with a climate change action plan tailored to their individual jurisdiction. Some of the issues to be discussed will include the effect climate change has on agriculture, health and food security.

Officials from the United Nations, U.S. National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration and University of the South Pacific will also be attendance.

When Gov. Benigno Fitial signed a proclamation declaring October as energy awareness month, he expressed interest in pursuing carbon capturing, which stores carbon dioxide instead of releasing it into the atmosphere.

Charles Reyes, press secretary for the CNMI Governor's Office, said funding was probably the reason why a delegate from the Commonwealth was not sent to the roundtable.

DPL

From Page 1

priety when it came to the homestead allotment granted to Raynaldo Cing, former senator Cing's brother and DelRosario's brother-in-law.

The allotment of the homestead land, he said in a statement, was granted long before he took on the role as DPL's Secretary.

He said a memorandum prepared by the former director of the Homestead Division shows that Ray Cing had applied for an agricultural homestead in 1976 when the NMI was still under the old Trust Territory Government.

"On October 2005, former Deputy Commissioner of DPL Tinian strongly recommended approval of the request submitted by Mr. Cing for the balance or short exchange of 1.5 hectares," DelRosario said, pointing to an Aug. 18 2006, memo on the approval. "On February 21, 2006, before its abolishment, the [Marians Public Lands Authority] board approved Mr. Cing's claim for short exchange."

In light of this approval, he said, "[m]y decision was basically ceremonial, honoring the former agency's approved disposition."

The issue had prompted former senator Cing to suspend his campaign as candidate for congressional delegate, saying he wants the Senate to get to the bottom of the matter before he can go ahead with his candidacy.

DelRosario said that Cing can return to the campaign trail "for your brother's case is now clear. Next time a brief phone call to DPL would suffice and you need not be scared of a paper tiger."

Shape of race

During a candidate forum Tuesday night, some contenders for the delegate post said Cing's departure could change the shape of the race. Candidate and the CNMI's current resident representative in Washington, DC, Pete A. Tenorio, said he would seek Cing's backing in the election.

"He certainly has a lot of knowledge about the politics of the Commonwealth and the history of the political development of the islands," said Tenorio. "I wish that he had stayed on so that he could at least educate our people on so many things that we need to know before the election."

With one less name in the race, the suspension of Cing's campaign could prove an advantage to some contenders. One candidate, John Davis, pointed to Cing's strong political influence and said he did have a reasonable chance of winning the election.

"I think this is sad," he said. "I think Mister Cing brought some interesting vitality—and that's true—to the arena."

And the race after Cing's departure, he added, will likely shift.

"The race is less for it," he said. "He would have been a good candidate. I think he had a very strong chance."

HEAVY

From Page 1

He said affected areas included San Antonio, Chalan Kanoa, the Dandan traffic light in front of the Shell gas station, Susupe, stretches of Beach Road from north to south, Lower Base in front of Saipan Ice, and San Roque.

There were no immediate reports of evacuation, although some residents in As Lito said the floodwaters entered their homes.

As of 3:30pm yesterday, EMO's rain gauge indicated that a total of 2.4 inches of rain had fallen on the island, Camacho said.

The total volume of rain was more than enough to temporarily overwhelm the island's drainage system.

As of 4pm yesterday, water was still cascading from the mountain adjacent to the flooded Dandan traffic light intersection. The strong flow of water carried with it large rocks, tree branches and other debris to the intersection.

A DPW backhoe was dispatched to the Dandan intersection to remove the debris. The removal snarled traffic in the area.

The clearing operation as well as the high water level and debris prompted some motorists coming from San Vicente and going to As Lito to bypass the intersection and use the road leading to the airport instead.

Flooding also occurred at San Vicente Elementary School but teachers and school officials safely guided all car-riding students to their designated pick-up area.

Water flooded the entire northbound lane of Beach Road near the Cabrera Center up to Gold Beach Hotel.

EMO projected that rain last night would be light to moderate and that there would be thunder and lightning.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial advised motorists to take extra precautionary measures while driving in low-lying areas and on highways for ponds of water and sometimes low visibilities.

DEWITT

From Page 3

themselves proposed the 6am practice schedule, he added.

He said it all paid off when they bested 30 groups of all genres and came home with the title of Best Musical Group Overall as well as Best in Show.

Band members Anthony Gamez and Trimi Macduff joined Dewitt in sharing their Beijing experiences with the Rotarians and talked about their goals for the future. Both expressed a desire to pursue degrees in music upon graduation.

Other band members who made it to Beijing were Raegina Castro, Ray MacDuff, Gayle Martin and Ted Parker.

Dewitt said they would definitely go back to Guam next year to defend their title. "We're now practicing for that," he said.

FORUM

From Page 1

ed his campaign. Anderson also noted an unexpected twist on the rules for the forum—the presence of a green "pass" card that gave the contenders the power to forgo answering at least one question throughout the course of the night.

The forum's format consisted of randomly selected questions drawn from those submitted by members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, which hosted the event at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, students at Northern Marianas College and members of the chamber's board.

The first question—on how to attract workers to fill the job vacancies that will likely be created by the federal takeover of local immigration rules—fell to Department of Public Lands official and talk show host John Oliver Gonzales.

"The question is: Do we have the political will and long term and master plan to develop our resident local workforce?" said Gonzales. "As your delegate, I will work diligently with the Department of Homeland Security, the INS, the Department of Interior and Congress so that we can provide regulations that protect the competitive economic tools for our development."

Key to the CNMI's economic future, he added, is ensuring the CNMI has access to skilled foreign workers and the Russian and Chinese tourism markets.

Businessman Chong Man Won later took a question on whether he would follow the will of the governor and the Legislature or put more stock in his own stance on federal issues. Won said the interests of the CNMI's people should come first.

"Not every opinion everyone is going to agree with; some people are going to have their opinions and others will have their own," he said. "But we have to look at what's in the best interest of the people of the CNMI. Of course, I will not agree with the governor 100 percent and, of course, I will not agree with the Legislature 100 percent. We have to do what's best for the people, whether we agree or disagree, it doesn't matter."

Retired judge Juan T. Lizama addressed a question on his stance concerning the prospect of a federal takeover of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"CUC is a local matter," he said, noting that the embattled utility needs to resolve internal organizational problems and improve its management. "CUC has to find a way to ensure that public utilities will be provided. We have to look at what's happening with CUC management and the public has to be assured that what the management is doing is for the benefit of the general public."

Whether Gov. Benigno Fitial's recent lawsuit against the federal government over its takeover of local immigration rules is necessary was the subject of the question posed to the CNMI's current resident representative in Washington, DC, Pete A. Tenorio.

"Absolutely, unequivocally no, it is not necessary," he said. "The issue of the lawsuit is about abrogating self-government rights. I don't see that as today's issue because as a negotiator of the Covenant, I know that that issue is not in the Covenant."

Tenorio later added that "the issue of [the lawsuit] is whether or not the government of the United States, through the enactment of the law, intruded into local internal labor. My answer is no. It did not and never did."

Northern Islands Municipal Council member Felipe Atalig addressed what he sees as one of the most pressing issues the non-voting delegate will face: Te lack of familiarity with the CNMI among many members of Congress.

"For the past 35 years, the CNMI has not been adequately represented," he said. "As a result, members of Congress have still not learned enough about the CNMI."

Sen. Luis Crisostimo, taking part in a candidate forum for the first time in his election campaign, took a question on how the CNMI can take advantage of the pending military buildup in Guam. Marketing the CNMI as a tourist destination, he said, and making use of its agriculture sector could give it a major economic boost in light of the added military presence in the region.

"There is a market for commodity goods, services, service sectors such as leisure," he said, pointing to local casinos and resorts. "We can also compete in farm produce, organic produce. We still cannot compete in volume but I assure you that in quality, we can."

Decorated Vietnam War veteran John Davis managed to score a laugh out of the crowd when asked which presidential candidate he would work with best if elected.

"That was a joke, right?" he said. "I'm an American black man but I know that I have things in common with both John McCain and Barack Obama. What I have in common with John McCain, for instance, we're both Vietnam veterans. But Barack Obama's a black man and I'm a black man. Obviously, we have things in common. But, to answer the question, I believe I can work with both the candidates but for different reasons."

Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, a former lawmaker and former executive director of the Commonwealth Election Commission, took a question on whether the local Democratic and Republican parties should be affiliated with the national parties. Kilili also won some laughs from the audience.

"Because I am presently not a member or affiliated with either party, I couldn't care less," he said. "This delegate will have to work with both houses and both Democrats and Republicans. I will work with anybody, including independents, in Congress to advance the interests of the Marianas islands irrespective of their political affiliation."

Fund backs pension obligation bonds

The NMI Retirement Fund is pressing the Legislature to approve a constitutional change that would allow the CNMI government to borrow money to pay the pension program.

Juan T. Guerrero, chairman of the Retirement Fund's board of trustees, said the proposed pension obligation bonds will serve "as an important bridge for catching up on the obligations owed to the CNMI pension program."

As of Sept. 30, 2007, the CNMI government owed the Retirement Fund over $132 million in employer contributions, excluding penalties and interest.

Under a Senate-passed initiative, the CNMI government can issue pension obligation bonds to reduce its unfunded liability to the NMI Retirement Fund. The initiative is awaiting action by the House of Representatives, where it must obtain a three-fourths vote. Once approved by both houses, the proposed constitutional amendment can be placed on the ballot for ratification in 2009 at the earliest.

In a letter to Senate President Pete P. Reyes and House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, Guerrero said that pension obligation bonds "can serve as a necessary and significant means of closing an unfunded pension liability gap." He noted that several states have taken steps to issue or have issued pension obligation bonds over the last five years.

Guerrero said that two measures enacted in the past two years—the creation of the Defined Contribution Plan and the Defined Benefit Plan Reform Act—have helped the Retirement Fund. But he also said the Defined Contribution Plan has caused a new set of problems for the Defined Benefit Plan. The new plan required the diversion of investment funds that would otherwise be used in the Defined Benefit Plan, thereby magnifying the effect of the central government's failure to pay contributions.

"A pension obligation bond is designed to fill this void," Guerrero said. "When worldwide bond market conditions stabilize and the conditions for borrowing improve, the Commonwealth needs the ability to enter the bond market and reduce its unfunded pension liability through POB financing."

Guerrero also asked the Legislature to pass two House bills designed the streamline the NMI Retirement Fund. House Bill 16-138 seeks to transfer the administrative functions of the Workers Compensation Commission to the Department of Commerce. House Bill 16-139 proposes the transfer of the administrative functions of the privatized government health and life insurance program to the Department of Finance.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, using similar language, has made the same pleas to the Legislature. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

Fitial mourns Sgt. Manglona

Gov. Benigno Fitial paid tribute Tuesday to the memory of Sgt. Julian Manglona, an Army reservist who died last week while training for deployment to Kuwait.

In a statement, Fitial said the death of Manglona, 39, is a blow to the entire CNMI.

"I pray for soldier Julian Manglona and his family," said Fitial. "The family has my sympathy and support. This not just a loss for the family; it is also a loss for our community and the United States armed forces. I join the people of the CNMI in mourning the loss of this young man."

Manglona was on a 6-mile run on the grounds of Fort Hood, Texas, last week when he collapsed. He later died at a nearby hospital after comrades attempted mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

According to news reports, Manglona had served in a reserve unit assigned to the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and was called to active duty in July. He was slated to begin a one-year tour of duty in Kuwait later this month, his second deployment to the Middle East. On Saipan, Manglona was a police officer. ***(Stefan Sebastian)***

One simple test
can make
a difference
for your child
Ask if your baby passed
their hearing test?
CNMI Newborn Hearing Screening Program
Hearing loss is found in about one in every 300 babies born. Although a baby may startle to loud noises, they may not hear the softer sounds needed for speech and language development. Your baby should have had a hearing test before leaving the hospital. If your baby needs follow up, schedule your appointment right away.
Follow up testing is FREE! Call CHC at 236-8709

Senators grill Pai in confirmation hearing

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Public auditor nominee Michael Pai yesterday fielded questions on his personal background and his plans for the Office of the Public Auditor during a confirmation hearing that was largely friendly on both sides of the aisle.

Most of the hearing before the House Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations and the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations focused on Pai's qualification to serve as the Commonwealth's public auditor.

But questions were also asked about Pai's plans for addressing previous audit findings that have been referred to, and still awaiting action by, the Office of the Attorney General. Pai reported that a joint task force made up of OAG and OPA attorneys are now working on the corruption cases.

The lawmakers also picked Pai's brain about possibly granting OPA the power to prosecute individuals found to have misused public funds. "I haven't ruled anything out," Pai said. "It's not a priority for me to get prosecutorial powers. I just don't have enough information about it."

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Pai to replace Michael Sablan as public auditor on July 22, 2008. His nomination requires approval by both the Senate and House of Representatives. The 90 days given to the Legislature to act on the nomination ends on Sunday, Oct. 19, 2008.

If confirmed, Pai will serve as public auditor for six years.

Business interests

Although lawmakers quizzed Pai with a mostly friendly tone, Pai experienced some tense moments when Rep. Rosemond Santos fired questions about his involvement in private sector companies, including one that does business with the government.

He is currently a shareholder of Universal Air Supply, an air-conditioning and refrigeration wholesale and retail company in Guam; Plexus International, a training and quality management systems firm in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Saipan Sunset Cruise Inc, a local boat cruise tours company.

In addition, he serves as treasurer of Chong's Corp., which offers air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment and services. The company, Pai admitted, conducts "a significant amount of business with the government."

"Do you not feel you should vacate these private sector positions to eliminate any appearance of impropriety?" asked Santos, chairwoman of the House JGO Committee.

Pai said he plans to give up his interests in Saipan Sunset Cruise once confirmed. But he is still consulting with OPA's attorney about whether he should quit his treasurer role with Chong's Corp., which is owned by his wife and her mother.

Pai expressed belief that he will not be violating any ethics laws as long as he recuses himself from any possible procurement case involving Chong's and he does not use government time and resources for any work related to the company.

Strong support

Several government and business leaders spoke on Pai's behalf, attesting to his competence and good character.

Acting attorney general Gregory Baka was the first to testify in support of Pai's nomination. He said that "someone of [Pai's] caliber should be confirmed to serve as public auditor."

Nhing Reyes, a senior manager at the Ernst & Young accounting firm and Pai's former co-worker, testified about the nominee's qualification and objectivity.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Jim Arenovski said Pai has the support of the business sector. "If you're looking for a public auditor who has integrity and the ability to be fair and listen to all parties, you cannot find a better man [than Pai]," Arenovski said. Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos echoed Arenovski's recommendation.

Even lawmakers attending the hearing expressed their support for Pai. Those lawmakers include Rep. Diego Benavente, Rep. Tina Sablan, and Rep. Stanley Torres.

Pai has been a certified public accountant for more than 20 years. He attended the University of Hawaii, where he completed degrees in engineering and business administration.

Before putting up his own accounting firm in 1986, Pai worked for a number of corporations and an accounting firm, including the Hawaiian Telephone Company, Micronesian Telecommunications Corp., and Ernst & Young.

Pai is also an active in community activities, serving as member of the CNMI Board of Accountancy, the NMI Judiciary Historical Society, and the Pet Assistance & Welfare Services group. Pai was also a president and a board member of the Rotary Club of Saipan, and was a board member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

EUROPE MARIAN Tour 2008
in Conjunction with 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOURDES APPARITIONS

twin sharing per person

Paris, Nevers, Paray Le Monial, Lourdes, Zaragoza, Madrid, Avila, Salamanca, Family
November 4-19, 2008
$3,380*
*Visa fee and tips not included.

Includes
- Economy class Manila-Dubai-Paris and Lisbon-Dubai-Manila
- Breakfast and Dinner throughout
- All hotel accommodation at 3-4 star hotels
- All tours mentioned with English speaking guides
- Transfer from Airport to hotel and vice versa

Some restrictions apply.

For more information please call your travel agents, Lisa and Jie at (670) 235-3708 to 10 or e-mail us at customerservice@centurytravelagency.com
www.centurytravelagency.com
Century Travel AGENCY, INC.
A TanHoldings Company
Going the Extra Mile to Serve You!
Ground Floor CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, PMB 193 Box 10000 PPP, Saipan MP 96950

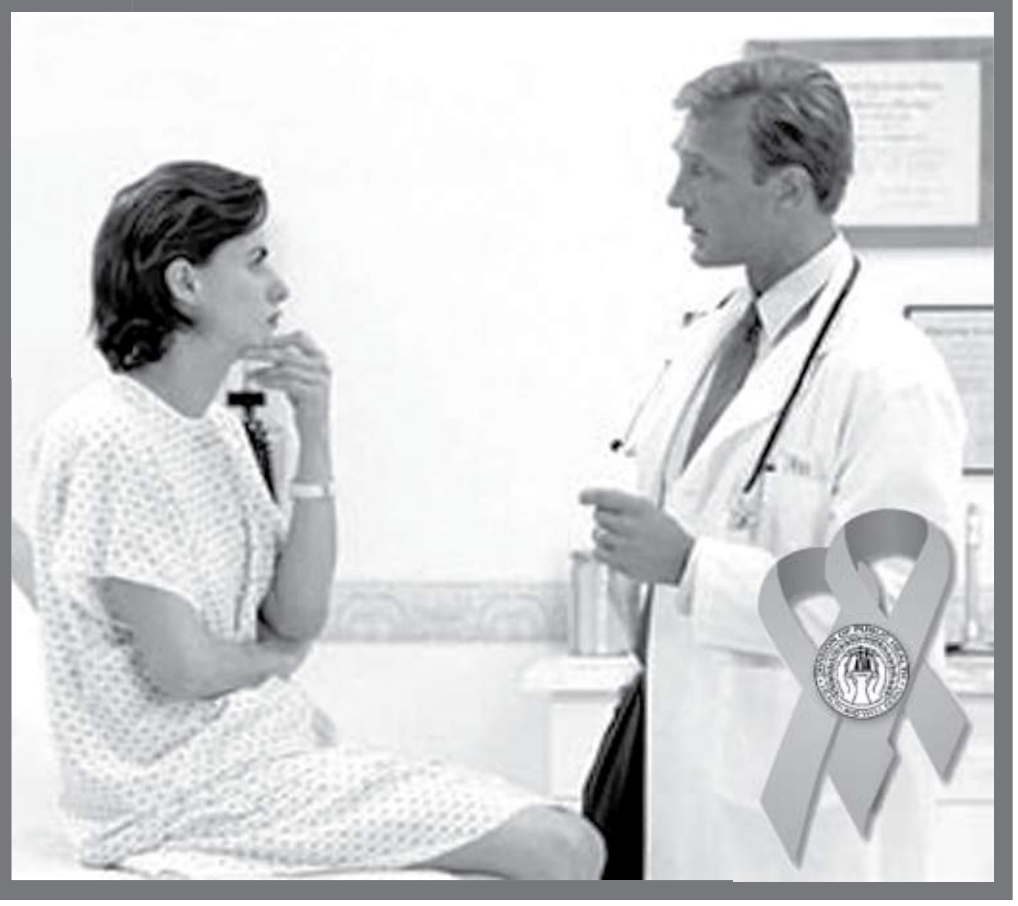
The American Cancer Society (ACS) recommends that ladies over 20 years old should start getting Clinical Breast Exams (CBE).

Early detection is your best protection!

CNMI Breast & Cervical Screening Program (BCSP)
236-8727/37
cnmibcsp@pticom.com

October is the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

This ad was brought to you by the Department of Public Health's Breast and Cervical Screening Program with 100% funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



'Pacific must adapt, mitigate to deal with climate change'

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

APIA, Samoa—The Pacific region needs to reduce the risk of greenhouse gas emissions as well as learn to adapt to the effects of climate change, a leading expert on the topic said yesterday, the day before an international forum on the subject is to take place here.

Both tasks must go hand-in-hand to achieve the desired outcome, said Espen Ronneberg, Climate Change Adviser for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. SPREP is a regional organization based in Apia that is charged with protecting and managing the region's environment and natural resources.

Greenhouse gas emissions come from burning of fossil fuels in cars, airplanes and certain power plants, among other things. Waste and sewage in the form of methane can also cause greenhouse gases, as well as deforestation. As the gases are trapped in a thin layer around the atmosphere, the layer can become thicker, creating more heat inside the atmosphere, Ronneberg said.

"Basically you have this blanket, but it's not a very thick blanket," he said. "This blanket is getting thicker."

Climate change is impacting the Pacific in several ways, including an increase in extreme events; changes in rainfall; increased coastal erosion; and coral bleaching, Ronneberg said.

He said there are four paths Pacific Islands can choose to pursue as they tackle climate change: they can not do anything at all; they can focus on mitigating or reducing the risk of greenhouse gas emissions; they can focus on adapting to the effects of climate change; or they can use a combination to adapt and mitigate.

Adaptation techniques might include "climate proofing" areas, building seawalls or improving building codes to allow for better infrastructure to withstand climate change.

Adaptation at the national level is ideal, but that does not always happen, Ronneberg said, so it must fall to the community level.

"It's the community that will have to live with whatever solution is proposed," he said. "They're be there to see if it works."

Mitigation techniques include implementing energy efficiency standards, introducing solar power and replacing diesel with renewable energy.

It takes a while for the effects of greenhouse gas emissions to be seen and felt, Ronneberg said. Emissions in the atmosphere today are from 20 to 30 years ago.

Kennedy named chief of Law Revision Commission

Kennedy

Heather L. Kennedy officially began work as the new executive director of the Law Revision Commission last week, bringing an assortment of legal experiences to her new position.

Kennedy spent the last year-and-a-half working as a staff attorney with the commission.

As its new head, Kennedy and her colleagues will study local law in order to make recommendations on how to simplify, clarify and modernize CNMI statutes. Kennedy will also oversee the commission's various legal publications, and work toward enhancing its electronic legal database, which includes a comprehensive, searchable CD-ROM of local laws and agency regulations.

Before joining the commission, Kennedy worked as legal counsel to the CNMI Public School System and Board of Education for more than seven years.

Kennedy is licensed to practice law in North Carolina, Missouri, and the CNMI. She began her legal career working as an assistant public defender in Charlotte, North Carolina. Thereafter, she worked as a corporate litigation attorney in a large law firm in St. Louis, Missouri. Kennedy and her husband moved to Saipan in 1999, where they have had two children.

Kennedy says she is pleased with her new role, saying, "I look forward to continuing to provide the CNMI community with access to CNMI laws and quality legal publications. I welcome comment from community members to enhance our products and improve access to CNMI law through the Law Revision Commission website, www. cnmilaw.org."

Chief Justice Miguel Demapan stated that after reviewing applications from a number of qualified candidates, Kennedy's distinguished track record set her apart.

"Heather has brought intelligence, innovation, and quality work product at every stop in her legal career," he said. "Heather has been an extremely valuable asset to both the Law Revision Commission and the judiciary over the last year-and-a-half. I can safely speak on behalf of the entire Court system in saying we are all delighted that she's willing to assume her new role as executive director."

Kennedy replaces Naomi Lujan-Gonzales, who relocated to Guam in August.

Several of the commission's legal publications are available for purchase and can be found at www.cnmilaw.org or by calling 236-9820.

The commission, an independent judiciary agency, is responsible for compiling, editing, and codifying all of the CNMI's laws, which includes statutes, judicial opinions, and regulations to provide the public with a highly-organized and readily-accessible database of CNMI laws. ***(PR)***

We must properly fund our search
for an alternative energy source
so that our commitment to alternative energy is
intelligent and so that we ultimately find
an affordable, dependable, clean energy source
that will restore our power, our economy,
our environment, and our morale.

To learn more,
visit www.kilili08.com

✓#8 Kilili for U. S. Delegate

Paid for by the Committee to elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Check out these great prices!

i415
Postpaid
FREE
with iKeep Plus $28.88 or higher plan
Prepaid
only
$33
with **$30**
airtime value

i425
Postpaid
only
$48.88
with iKEEP Plus $28.88 or higher plan
Prepaid
only
$78.88
with **$12.50**
airtime value

i335
Postpaid
only
$78.88
with iKEEP Plus $28.88 or higher plan
Prepaid
only
$138.88
with **$30**
airtime value

i455
Postpaid
only
$38.88
with iKEEP Plus $28.88 or higher plan
Prepaid
only
$88.88
with **$12.50**
airtime value

iKeep Plus Includes:
- Rollover Minutes
- Unlimited Push-To-Talk
- Unlimited Nights & Weekends
- Nationwide Minutes

iCONNECT
Pushing Saipan Forward

PREPAID: Enjoy 25% to 50% more value with iConnect's Prepaid Supercharge cards. $10 card is supercharged to $12.50 & the $20 cardis supercharged to $30. Free prepaid load must be loaded into the new sim card upon purchase.Prepaid Weekly Unlimited Cellular & Push-To-Talk Calls at $20 per week is available. To activate Prepaid Weekly Unlimited,dial *53 and follow instruction. POSTPAID: Requires ONLY 12 month contract. Conditions apply.

Saipan - Guam Office 888.8888 | www.iconnectsaipan.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Democratic Party puts off Saturday rally

The Northern Marianas Democratic Party said the rally and registration drive scheduled for Oct. 18 has been postponed until further notice. "We apologize and thank you for your understanding." ***(PR)***

Savings Week proclamation signing

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela will sign a mayoral proclamation this Friday, Oct. 17, 2008, to designate the week of Oct. 19 to 25, 2008, as "National Save for Retirement Week" on Saipan.

Tudela acknowledges the cost of retirement continues to rise, in part, and the number of employers providing retiree health coverage continues to decline, and retiree healthcare costs continue to increase at a rapid pace. And many employees may not be aware of retirement savings options and may not have focused on the importance of and need for saving for their own retirement.

The proclamation signing will be at 2pm at the Saipan Mayor's Office. Retirees and interested residents of Saipan are invited to attend. ***(PR)***

Breast cancer awareness month proclamation signing

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela will sign a mayoral proclamation this Friday, Oct. 17, to designate Oct. 19 to Nov. 16, 2008, as Breast Cancer Awareness Month on Saipan. This is a collaborative effort of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Mayor of Saipan.

All cancer survivors and their families are invited to attend the proclamation signing ceremony.

The proclamation signing will be at 10am at the Saipan Mayor's Office. ***(PR)***

Parents' meeting at Tinian High

There will be a parents' meeting for all parents and legal guardians for Tinian High School students at 3:30pm at the Tinian Youth Center. All parents are urged to attend. Bring a parent to the meeting. ***(PR)***

AT THE LEGISLATURE

The following meetings will be held in the Legislature this week:

- House Standing Committee on Federal and Foreign Relations—today, Thursday, Oct. 16 at 9:30am in the Speaker's Conference Room.
- House session today, Thursday, Oct. 16 at 1:30pm in the House Chamber
- Senate session on Friday, Oct. 17 at 10am in the Senate Chamber.

Also, next Monday, Oct. 20, at 11am in the House Chamber, a joint House and Senate meeting is scheduled with three White House representatives to discuss the proposed CNMI National Marine Sanctuary. ***(PR)***

Tinian Dynasty
Hotel & Casino
A Guaranteed Prize Pool
$ 100,000
Baccarat
Challenge
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
OCTOBER 18 & 19, 2008
1st PRIZE $ 60,000
2nd PRIZE $ 20,000
3rd PRIZE $ 10,000
4th PRIZE $ 4,000
5th to 10th PRIZE $ 1,000
Entry Fee: $1,000
Includes: Two nights Deluxe accommodation, Cocktail Party, Meals,
Tournament beverages & Airfare reimbursement.
Bet with your head, not over it.
For a chance to win your share of $100,000 in prize money,
please call VIP Services Tel: (670) 328-2285

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

OCTOBER 16, 2000

House OKs hiring for crucial govt jobs

The House of Representatives on Friday passed two measures aimed at addressing what it said as shortage in key personnel in government offices due to insufficient local labor pool with the required skills and training. Both legislation, authored by Health and Welfare Committee chair Rep. Malua T. Peter, will provide the government badly-needed staff such as teachers, doctors and engineers if signed into law by the governor.

Democrats name Borja as standard bearer in 2001 polls

Former Lt. Gov. Jesse C. Borja has pledged to provide a better future for the people of the Commonwealth as the Democratic Party declared him their official candidate for the gubernatorial elections in November 2001. However, the committee to elect Borja has withheld the announcement of his running mate until after the Republican Party's primary on Nov. 4.

Feds asked to relocate Tanapag residents

The House of Representatives adopted a resolution Friday asking the federal government to relocate residents of Tanapag village since a number of areas are still contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyl. This developed as Cemetery 2 in Tanapag opens today after it was declared off-limits to the public almost a year ago due to high PCB contamination. However, there are still areas in the cemetery which remain closed to the public as excavation is expected to continue within the next few weeks.

OCTOBER 16, 2001

USPS on alert against anthrax-laced mail

US Postal Service employees over the weekend participated in a stand-up session that dwelled on safety procedures, including ways to spot suspicious-looking mail, following threats of anthrax allegedly being transmitted through the post. The agency conducted routine learning programs for its employees on safe and secure mail handling procedures to beef up efforts against the possible spread of the deadly bacteria, which has reportedly affected 12 persons in the US as of Monday.

$20M golf course eyed for Tinian

A proposed 18-hole golf course amounting to $20 million is now being eyed for Tinian, after the Bougainville Resort Corp. submitted a proposal for such a project at the Board of Public Lands. Sen. Joaquin G. Adriano said officials of the Bougainville Resort Corp. and the Tinian Mayor's Office met with Office of Public Lands Executive Director Bertha DeLeon Guerrero on Tuesday last week, where the proposal to build the luxurious facility was presented.

Have you seen the sign?

The controlling behavior of men, their involvement with alcohol and drugs and their jealous nature are listed as major reasons why abuse and domestic violence occur. Reports prepared by the Family Violence Task Force revealed that cultural breakdown, rapid changes, addiction, gambling and cultural clashes are some of the principal causes of family violence in the Northern Marianas.

OCTOBER 16, 2002

Saipan airport alert level up

Asian nationals, particularly from Malaysia, Philippines, and Indonesia, are included in the high-risk list provided by the Federal Aviation Administration to the Commonwealth Ports Authority on its alert measure issued to all airports across the United States. According to CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas, all CNMI airports are at maximum-security status, particularly after the Bali bombing incident and the approval of the U.S. Congress to proceed with its war against Iraq.

DoF: No rebate checks out this month

The Department of Finance still has to release some $6 to $7 million in tax refunds, which means the timely release of rebate checks remains a remote possibility-at least at any time soon. This was confirmed yesterday by Finance Secretary Frank Villanueva, who reiterated his previous statement that the department will not be able to meet the October deadline for the release of the rebate checks.

Joeten's Best Buys of the Week!

October 16, thru October 22, 2008

Department Store
"Quality Products"

Styro Wreaths **15% off**

Funeral Baskets **20% off**

Riboons and Laces **25% off**

Artificial Flowers **25% off**

Wicker Baskets **25% off**

Supermarket

Palmolive Jel Dishwashing Lemon 45oz.
$2.75 /ea.

Special V Bleach 1 gallon
$3.39

Western Bleach Regular Ultra 96oz.
$3.39

Great Savings!

SUSUPE SHOPPING CENTER
TEL.: 234-6446
THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 9:00P.M. / SUN. 8:00A.M. - 7:00P.M.

DANDAN SUPERMARKET
TEL.: 235-6016
MON. THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 9:00P.M.

HAFA-ADAI SHOPPING CENTER
TEL.: 234-7596
MON. THRU SUN. 8:00A.M. - 11:00P.M.

GENUINE **PARTS.** GENUINE **SERVICE.** GENUINE **PEACE OF MIND.**

POWER 65 Battery

As low as **$79.99**

Call 234-1179 or Visit Us

Our New Location at Joeten Motors!
Limited offer, while supplies last.

NAPA AUTO PARTS
MARIANAS NAPA, INC.
WE SELL PARTS FOR ALL KINDS OF CARS & TRUCKS

JOETEN ACE® HARDWARE

New Arrival!

16" Stand Fan
sku: 6139018
$27.99

18" Wall Mount Fan
sku: 6139059
$34.99

18" Stand Fan
sku: 6039034
$49.99

Come and visit us for more sale!
Hurry, while supplies last!

Store Hours: Monday - Saturday 8am - 6pm/Sunday 8am - 5pm

SUSUPE BRANCH
Joeten Shopping Center Beach Road, Susupe
Tel: 234-3117 or 6448 - Fax: 235-7568

GUALO RAI BRANCH
Gualo Rai Commercial Center
Middle Road Tel: 235-9322 - Fax: 235-9325

SAN VICENTE BRANCH
San Vicente Road
Tel: 234-3176 - Fax: 235-0007

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XVIII, Issue No. 290

Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Global bailout

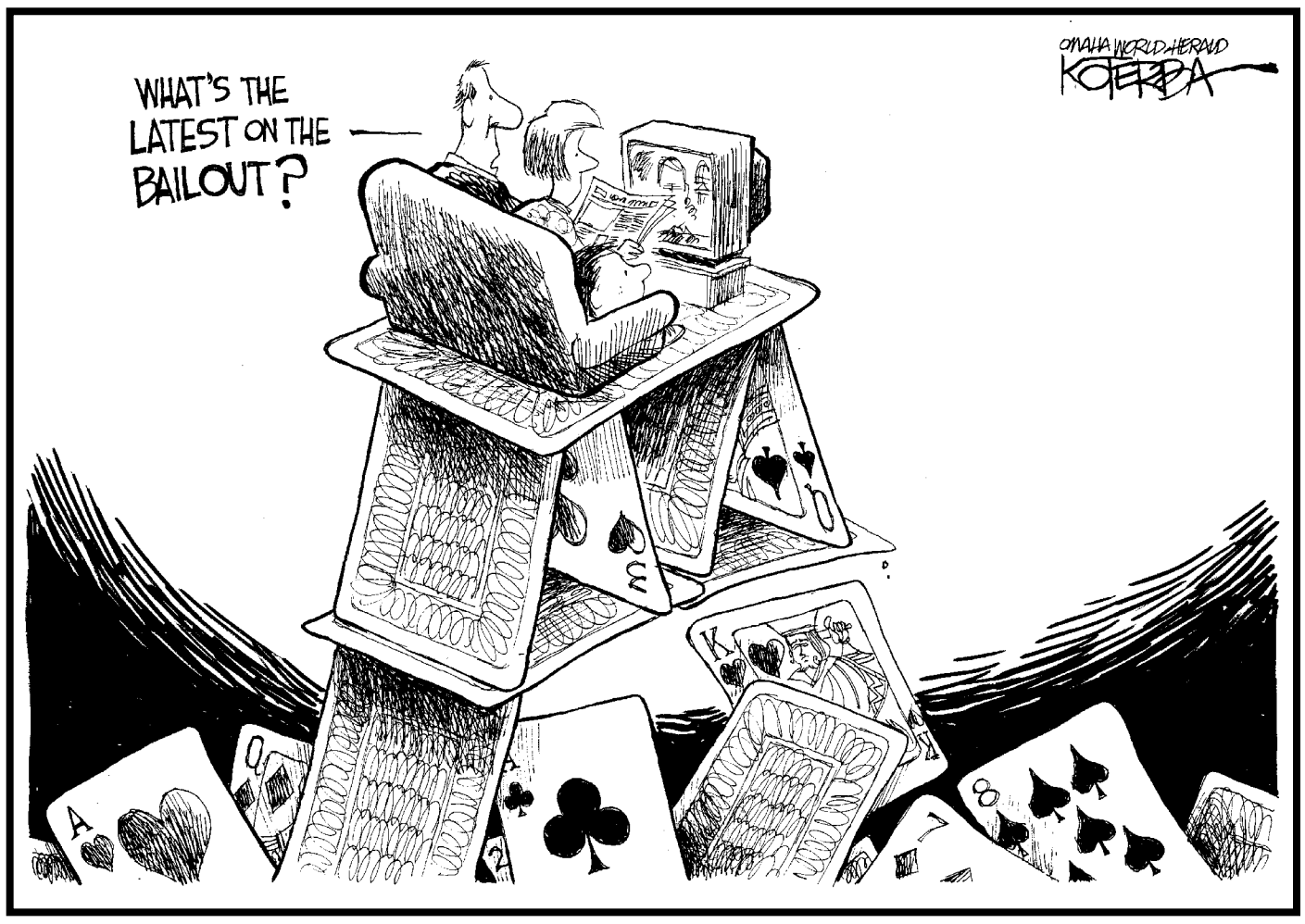
In the disorienting seesaw of the financial crisis, Monday was an upswing—one of those good days in which stock markets soared, inter-bank lending rates dipped and panic seemed that it might be giving way to concerted government intervention. It was not the first such day, to be sure, but both Wall Street and Main Street had to hope that the day represented more than a breather on the way down. That's because this time, intervention came in the form of massive and unprecedented coordinated action by U.S. and European governments. If the $2.3 trillion committed to backstopping European banks Monday, and the emerging plans for the Bush administration to announce parallel measures Tuesday, do not restore confidence in markets, it's hard to imagine what will.

The relief brought about by the linked steps taken by Britain, Germany, France, Spain, the Netherlands and other governments was pronounced in part because it appeared as late as last Friday that such international cohesion might not be possible. British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, who first proposed the twin measures of injecting capital directly into banks and guaranteeing bank debts, was initially rebuffed when he proposed that the remedy be adopted by the Group of Seven nations. Yet on Sunday, the 15 nations in the euro currency zone essentially adopted Mr. Brown's plan, along with other measures, while allowing for differences in implementation. The Fed facilitated Monday's massive commitment of funds to the European markets by agreeing to make dollars available in unlimited amounts.

More important, Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr. Monday appeared to be moving toward harmonizing the U.S. rescue strategy with Europe's. Mr. Paulson said last week that the Treasury would inject capital into banks in exchange for equity, and the administration reportedly was ready to use federal deposit insurance funds to back up bank debts. This marked yet another shift in strategy by an administration that has repeatedly whirled to embrace measures it rejected weeks or sometimes days earlier. But Mr. Paulson is to be commended for showing the flexibility and pragmatism to help fashion what amounts to a global bailout—a necessary response to globalized markets that nevertheless was all but inconceivable a few weeks ago.

There will be wrinkles in implementing the global solution from country to country, and the United States has no shortage of them. In comparison with the British market, for example, the U.S. banking sector is far larger and more diverse. While the British government Monday announced a partial takeover of three huge banks, Treasury may need to fashion different solutions for the largest American banks, which are linked to the global problem of toxic mortgage-based securities, and regional banks that still hold many conventional mortgages. Treasury will still buy some of the bad paper, as Mr. Paulson originally proposed, and it is working on the insurance program sought by congressional Republicans. The challenge certainly justifies using a range of tools. But what's most vital is that the United States fully support and subscribe to the global rescue effort. It had a good first day; whether Monday's upturn continues will depend in part on whether that international alliance remains solid.

(c) 2008, The Washington Post



The next world war could be financial

By PETER BOONE and SIMON JOHNSON
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

The global financial outlook grows more dire by the day: The United States has been forced to shore up Wall Street, and European governments are bailing out numerous commercial banks. Even more alarmingly, the government of Iceland is presiding over a massive default by all the country's major banks. This troubling development points not only to an even more painful recession than anticipated, but also to the urgent need for international coordination to avoid something worse: all-out financial warfare.

The ramifications of Iceland's misery are probably more serious than people realize. The country's bank assets are more than 10 times greater than its gross domestic product, so the government clearly cannot afford a bailout. This is going to be a large default, affecting many parties. In the United Kingdom alone, 300,000 account holders face sudden loss of access to their funds, and the process for claiming deposit insurance is not entirely clear.

But there's a broader concern. With European governments turning down his appeals for assistance, Iceland's prime minister, Geir Haarde, warned last week that it was now "every country for itself." This smacks of the financial autarchy that characterized defaulters in the financial crisis in Asia in the late 1990s. Similarly, when Argentina defaulted on its debt in 2001-'02, politicians there faced enormous pressure to change the rule of law to benefit domestic property holders over foreigners, and they changed the bankruptcy law to give local debtors the upper hand. In Indonesia and Russia after the crises of 1998, local enterprises and banks took the opportunity of the confusion to grab property, then found ways to ensure that courts sided with them.

This is a natural outcome of chaotic times. Iceland's promise to guarantee domestic depositors while reneging on guarantees to foreigners may be just a first step. British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's decision last week to sue Iceland over this issue may escalate the crisis. The use of counterterrorist legislation to take over Icelandic bank assets and operations in the United Kingdom also has a potentially dramatic symbolic effect.

Most of the time, financial war of this kind is painful and costly. It will lead to decades of lower international capital flows and could have other far-reaching effects on politics and global peace. Unless the leading industrial countries take concerted action, there's a very real danger that we will all suffer more.

In addition, we're now likely to see substantially more defaults and credit panics in smaller countries and emerging markets. After Iceland's fall, every creditor to other nations with large deficits and substantial external debt must be looking for ways to reduce its exposure. The obvious risks include much of Eastern Europe, Turkey and parts of Latin America. Russia's difficulties show that seemingly solvent countries can be high-risk: While the Russian central bank has gold and foreign exchange reserves of $556 billion, the private sector has recently built up an estimated $450 billion of debt. Creditors don't want to roll over the debt, so the government is using its reserves to do it. It has already ordered $200 billion channeled through state banks to companies repaying debt. If oil prices fall, a seemingly highly solvent country could quickly look nearly insolvent. Some other rising stars, such as Brazil and even India, may have similar problems.

Added to this are worrying signs that the credibility of U.S. authorities is on the decline. Despite Washington's moves to stabilize the financial system, credit and equity markets continue to drop. This pattern is reminiscent of the 1997-98 Asian crisis, when successive International Monetary Fund programs provided briefer and briefer respites from market routs in emerging economies.

There is now a risk that continued corporate and bank defaults within nations, matched by large shifts in capital flows across nations, will lead to a chaotic series of national and local defaults. If governments don't respond with sensible, coordinated policies, there's a risk of financial war. Here are six steps toward avoiding a situation of "each nation for itself":

1. The world's leading financial powers—at a minimum, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Germany—should jointly announce national plans to require recapitalization of banks (i.e., restructuring their debt and equity mixture) so that they have sufficient capital to weather a major global recession. How this is done can be determined internally by each nation, but this should be a common goal, so that citizens and companies can again trust their banks.

2. The countries should announce a temporary blanket guarantee on all existing bank deposits and debts. This will, in effect, promise creditors that they can safely expect the institutions to function until the recapitalization takes place, and it will help prevent the large flows of funds that could occur as some banks or countries conduct recapitalizations earlier than others. This guarantee should only be temporary (say, for six months).

3. The monetary authorities of these countries need to lower interest rates dramatically. Europe, Canada and the United States recently announced a coordinated 0.5 percent reduction in rates. This is a good start, but only a start. More will be needed, and it won't stop the credit crunch within or across countries. The events of the last nine months have set us on course for a global recession in which commodity prices will continue to fall and demand will remain weak. Inflation will be low, and deflation (falling prices) is a risk. More interest-rate cuts will be needed.

4. The monetary authorities also need to remain committed to pumping liquidity into the financial system as long as credit markets and interbank lending remain weak. This should be promised for at least one year.

5. All industrialized countries and most leading emerging markets should commit to a sizable fiscal expansion (at least 1 percent of GDP), structured to work within the local political environment, to

See THE NEXT on Page 11

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Pacific Region Investment Conference in the Philippines

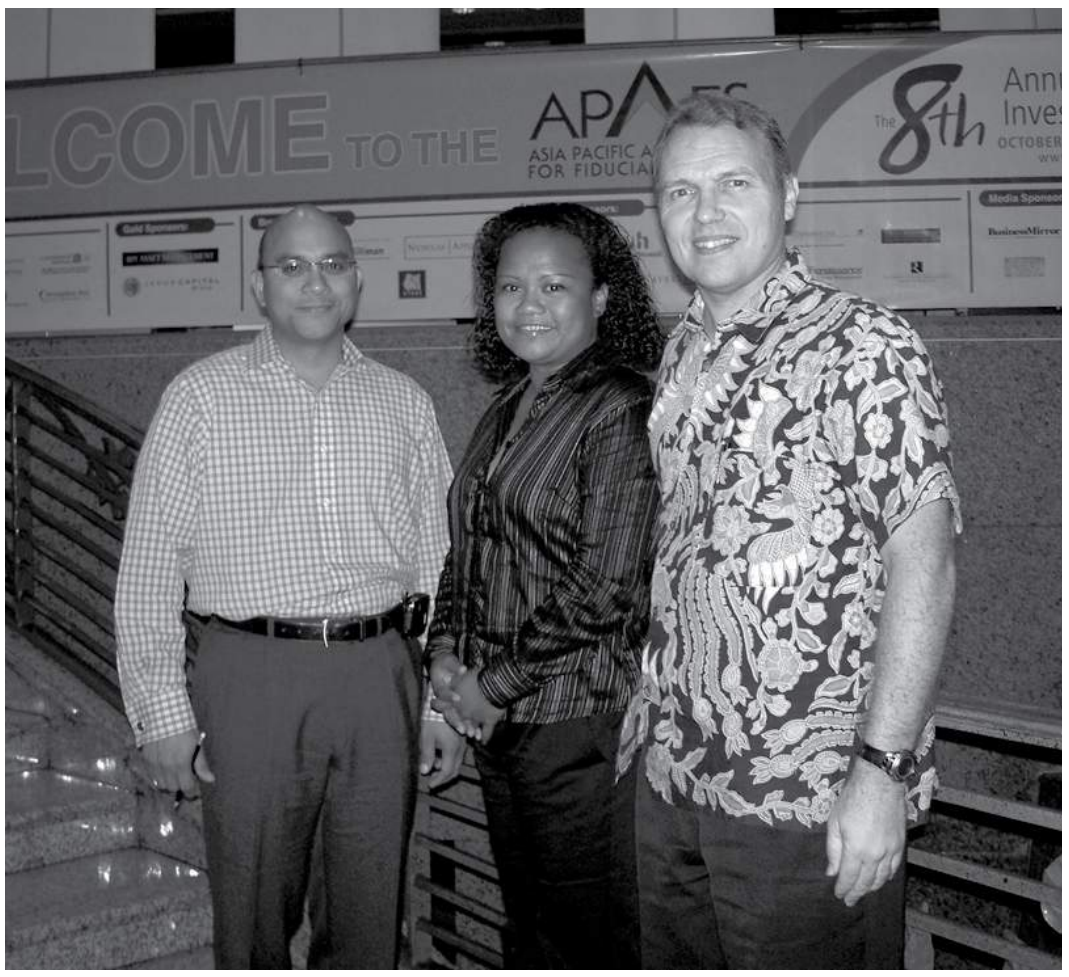
By **RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS**
Special to the Tribune

Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is a partner with BizResults, LLC (www.bizresults.org). They can be contacted at biz_results@yahoo.com.

The 8th Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference was held in Makati, the Philippines, on the 9th and 10th of October, and it could not have been timelier as the U.S. and world markets experience dramatic changes. I had the chance to attend the conference with Northern Marianas College student Regina Andres, who earned the trip through a student essay contest at the college. Also in attendance were numerous CNMI individuals who manage public or private funds in the Commonwealth, such as banks and the retirement fund. CDA Director Oscar Camacho gave a presentation with other representatives from Micronesia during the development bank round table.

The Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies, APAFS, offers the investment conference on a yearly basis, and it has been held on both Saipan and Guam. In case you're wondering, a fiduciary is someone entrusted with the management of public or private funds. The goal of APAFS is to raise the level of understanding and standards of practice among fiduciaries in the Asia Pacific region, so they can provide better stewardship of the funds in their care.

During the two-day conference, speakers from all parts of the world convened to offer their expertise on areas such as trends in the global defined contribution retirement plan, investment opportunities in alternative energy and distressed Asia stock markets, and the outlooks in both equity markets and fixed income markets. To balance out the capitalistic tone of the conference, there was also an ethics presentation geared toward financial professionals, and a presentation by the Consuelo Foundation, which provides humanitarian aide through the charitable contributions from financial institutions.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Gerard Cruz, left, APAFS chairman of the Board of Governors, poses with Regina Andres and Rik Villegas during the 8th Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference held at the Renaissance Makati City Hotel, Manila.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Marc Faber, an economist who publishes the widely read Gloom Boom & Doom monthly investment newsletter, which highlights unusual investment opportunities. Dr. Faber is a regular speaker at investment seminars and is well known for his "contrarian" investment ideas and approach.

I'd like to share some of the main points of Dr. Faber's comments. He began by using this provocative question as the title for his presentation: "Will global economic and financial connectivity lead to a global slump?"

Let's start out with the bright side of the negative financial news. Even though we are in a slump, Dr. Faber stated that some regions and sectors such as China and India will continue to see a demand for their commodities, even though there will be a slowdown in demand growth. From now on there will be faster growth in emerging economies, and this will create a shift in power to other regions in the world, and these "new kids on the block" may be the prime beneficiaries of the current crises. Some buying opportunities are beginning to show up because of a decline in equity markets and selected commodities. He believes real estate should be interesting in commodity producing countries.

On the "threats" side of the equation Faber pointed out that 2001 to 2007 marked the first truly economic boom in the world. However, this global synchronized expansion will lead to a global synchronized bust. The credit crises is very serious, and even though the Fed can cut rates and pursue more expansionary monetary policies, and fiscal measures can be expanded further; he believes such policy measures will increase the rate of inflation and accelerate the monetary depreciation of the U.S. dollar. The more money that the Fed prints will create a devaluation of the U.S. dollar. Dr. Faber made the prediction that the dollar will eventually become totally worthless in our lifetime.

Regardless of what the Fed or government do to improve the credit crises, the consumer is in recession and the recession will deepen in the coming months. He stated that the U.S. began its recession a year ago in October 2007. Dr. Faber believes that we are in a "water torture" bear market in asset prices, which will deflate one asset class after another.

The federal "bailout" won't depress the real problem the U.S. is facing—too much leverage and debt. The central banks create far too much leverage. Easy money and debt growth have a diminishing impact on U.S. economic growth. Simon Rudolph of Franklin Templeton International also commented that the U.S. is going down a fairly steep slope and that the bailouts will cost two to three times more than what's reported.

To answer the question posed by the title of Dr. Faber's presentation: Yes, there will be a worldwide economic slump. It is quite likely, according to Faber, that the current global economic boom and the universal, all-encompassing asset bubble will lead to a colossal bust.

THE NEXT

From Page 10

offset the coming large decline in global demand.

6. Many families worldwide are going to have negative equity (i.e., mortgages larger than the value of their homes) due to declining home prices. There are going to be large-scale recriminations against lenders and politicians. The most affected nations, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Spain, urgently need to develop programs to provide relief for homeowners, both to offset real hardship and to prevent a vicious downward cycle in home prices.

It's important to prepare properly: Partial and piecemeal actions will no longer work. Actions by one country alone, and the current pattern of small steps, are no longer credible enough to change the tide: Markets need to be jolted out of their panic. It's worth bringing a sufficient mass of economic power to bear in a comprehensive program to unfreeze the markets. If the major powers of Europe and the United States were to implement such a program, we can be sure that other countries would follow suit, dramatically relieving fears of bank failure in these countries.

We also need to let prices move to a level supported by the market, which unfortunately means that wealth is likely to decline even further. The events of the last six months will almost surely cause a recession, and large downward revisions in earnings estimates are a near certainty. The crisis has undoubtedly changed investors' perception of the risks of investing in equities and real estate. As we saw after the Asian crises, this can mean that stocks, bonds and other assets become very cheap, and it takes a long time for values to recover. Fiscal expansion and help to homeowners will reduce the pain from these losses, but it's important to be clear that the success of the program should not be measured by rising asset prices.

Finally, it's important for everyone to recognize that we are well past the days where even dramatic steps could have stopped the panic and prevented a major recession. A successful program will not prevent recession, and we will still see many personal, corporate and perhaps even national bankruptcies. Once the genie of panic and uncertainty is unleashed, it takes years to put it back in the bottle. What we need to do is to prevent a chaotic collapse arising from incomplete policies, lack of credibility and international financial warfare.

Peter Boone is chairman of Effective Intervention, a U.K.-based charity. Simon Johnson is a professor at MIT's Sloan School of Management. With James Kwak, they run the economic crisis Web site BaselineScenario.com.

Letters to the Editor

Too late the hero

So now the House, in typical flip-flop style, wants Northern Marianas College to keep KRNM on Saipan?

Its members passed a resolution to that effect after it was announced that NMC has asked the Federal Communications Commission to approve transfer of the FCC license for the station to an organization on Guam. (See story in Wednesday's issue of the *Saipan Tribune*.)

Where were the House members when KRNM's station manager was pleading for help and support to keep the station open, to keep it on Saipan, to help NMC support it? Carl Pogue repeatedly asked for help and support over a period of several months, after NMC informed him that it could no longer afford to support the station.

Carl looked everywhere, tried everything, asked everyone, to try keep the station open and operating here on Saipan. But the responses were few and far between.

So he compromised, and found a way for the license to be retained, for the programming to remain largely unchanged, for NMC to relieve itself of the burden, for the station to remain in the area. And all things considered, it wasn't a bad compromise.

And now, belatedly and still empty-handed, House members suddenly decide that's the wrong way to go?

I'm not sure how FCC operates, but I don't think it will be all that easy to withdraw the request for license transfer, to ask that the license be held in abeyance until—if ever—NMC decides it can again afford to underwrite the station.

Leave it alone, guys, until you can come up with the funds to guarantee its continued operation yourselves! As it now stands, at least we will continue to get some National Public Radio programming, instead of none at all, as your resolution would have it.

Ruth Tighe
Tanapag, Saipan

Lower gas prices now!

Is anyone paying attention to the price of a barrel of gasoline nowadays? It was around $81 as of Oct. 13, 2008, mainly due to the credit crunch the U.S. is now facing. It doesn't make sense that gas is now at $4.27 per gallon. A news article from a local paper dated Sept. 8, 2005, shows that when gas was selling at $90 per barrel, gasoline in the CNMI was being sold at $3.24 per gallon for unleaded. We are overdue for a reduction in the price of a gallon of gasoline. People are suffering. Pat hafa mon?

Jeff Flores
Koblerville, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

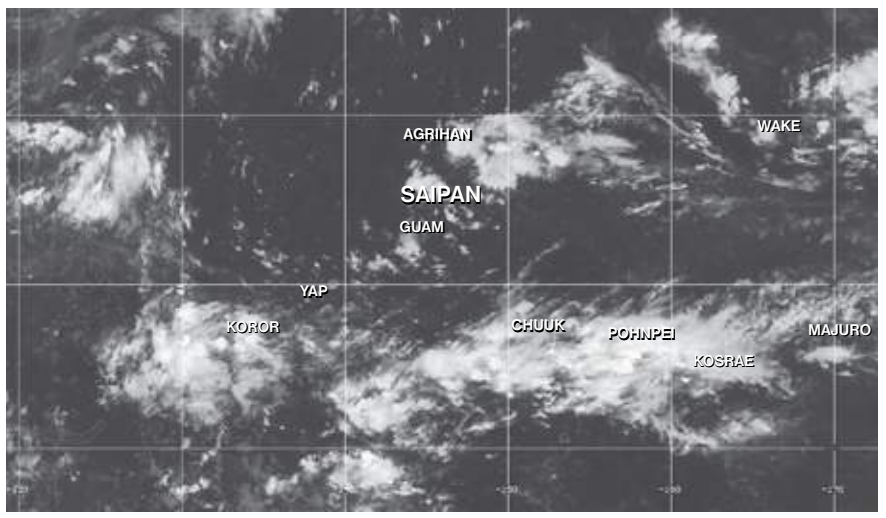
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲85	▼76
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼73
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲85	▼75

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲65	▼51
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼55
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲84	▼75
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼74
London	Partly Sunny	▲61	▼45
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼57
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼76
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼54
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼75
New York	Showers	▲70	▼52
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼55
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼52
Pusan	Partly Sunny	▲76	▼58
Rome	Cloudy	▲73	▼55
Salem	Rain	▲63	▼49
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼55
Seoul	Cloudy	▲73	▼52
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲72	▼59
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲79	▼58

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:15PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough reaches northwestward from 4N135E to 14N128E enhanced by upper-level divergence. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring over Koror between 4N and 9N from 130E to 135E. An upper-level trough extends northeastward from EQ138E through an upper low centered over Guam at 13N145E to 22N155E then turns east-southeastward through another upper low near Wake Island at 19N170E to beyond 180 at 18N. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen along the trough axis over the Marianas and northeastward to Minamitori Shima within 160 miles of a line from 14N144E to 22N156E. Similar conditions are also found west of Wake Island within 80 miles of a line from 19N165E to 25N160E and just east of Wake Island between 17N and 24N from 168E to 180. Trade-wind convergence is combining with favorable upper-level dynamics to produce numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms over a large area from well south of Yap near the equator and east-northeastward across Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae to west of the Marshall Islands. This area is within 225 miles of a line from 3N140E to 7N165E. Widely scattered showers are forming over Kwajalein and Majuro between 5N and 10N from 167E to 180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:15AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
8:51AM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:36PM Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
7:52PM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09AM	5:56 PM
Friday	6:09AM	5:55 PM
Saturday	6:09AM	5:55 PM
Sunday	6:09AM	5:54 PM
Monday	6:10AM	5:54 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:54PM	7:10AM
Friday	7:49PM	8:15AM
Saturday	8:49PM	9:21AM
Sunday	9:53PM	10:27AM
Monday	10:58PM	11:28AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Sunday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $182. Off-island subscription rate is $376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota			
CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7
Saipan-Guam			
CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily
Saipan-Narita			
NW 099	5:00am	7:30am	Daily
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily
NW 075	4:55pm	7:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Osaka			
NW 083	4:20pm	6:55pm	Daily
Saipan-Nagoya			
NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily
Saipan-Seoul			
OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7
Saipan-Busan			
OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,5
Saipan-Shanghai			
FM 844	3:15am	5:55am	2,6
Rota-Guam			
CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7
Guam-Manila			
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan			
CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6
Guam-Saipan			
CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
Narita-Saipan			
NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily
NW 100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily
Osaka-Saipan			
NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
Nagoya-Saipan			
NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily
Seoul-Saipan			
OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6
Busan-Saipan			
OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	4,7
Shanghai-Saipan			
FM 843	7:50pm	2:15am+1	1,5
Guam-Rota			
CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6
Manila-Guam			
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Business

Federal bank buy-in no economic quick-fix

AP

President Bush delivers remarks on the economy in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2008.

WASHINGTON (AP)—With any luck, the government's quarter-trillion dollar cash infusion in banks will get them lending again, but the radical move won't quickly turn around the tottering economy.

The pain will almost certainly drag on as vanishing jobs, shrinking paychecks and nest eggs, and slumping home values continue to force millions of Americans to pull back.

Sales at the nation's retailers are expected to drop in September even as they get a break from record-high energy prices. Uncertainty about the economy—and their own financial fortunes—probably will force consumers and businesses alike to hunker down further, spelling more problems for the already troubled economy.

Anxiety about the economy is the No. 1 concern of voters. With the presidential election just weeks away, Democrat Barack Obama and Republican rival John McCain are working furiously to convince people that each is the best choice to steer the economy through these perilous times.

In addition to September retail sales numbers, other economic data out Wednesday is expected to show that even though the recent retreat in energy prices calmed inflation at the wholesale level bit, costs are still high and are squeezing businesses.

Many economists believe the country is on the edge of—or already in—its first recession since 2001.

If the government's new plan works—it will merely cushion the blow. Democrats on Capitol Hill are pushing for another round of stimulus that could cost as much as $150 billion, an effort to provide additional relief and lift the country out of the doldrums.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke will provide an up-to-date assessment of the country's economic and financial challenges in a speech in New York on Wednesday.

Big banks started falling in line Tuesday behind the rejiggered bailout plan that will have the government forking over as much as $250 billion in exchange for partial ownership—putting the world's bastion of capitalism and free markets squarely in the banking business.

Some early signs were hopeful for the latest in a flurry of radical efforts to save the nation's financial system: Credit was a bit easier to come by. And stocks were down but not alarmingly so after Monday's stratospheric leap.

The new plan, President Bush declared, is "not intended to take over the free market but to preserve it."

Bush and Paulson take new approach to economic crisis

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Bush administration's latest effort to resolve the financial crisis embraces an approach it had resisted just a few weeks ago.

But things move fast in the bailout world. And in deciding to inject fresh capital into U.S. banks in return for ownership stakes, the administration adopted a plan that many leading economists had been pushing for weeks.

"I—and many others—have been harping on (the banks') inadequate capital for months," said Anil Kashyap, an economist at the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business.

The latest move follows a Herculean effort by Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke to win congressional approval last month of the $700 billion bailout package.

That legislation will fund the recapitalization. But the focus of Paulson's initial plan—buying distressed mortgage-related securities to improve banks' balance sheets and make it easier for them to lend again—is now taking a back seat.

The shift in approach suggests the administration had miscalculated the time it had to take corrective action before realizing the urgency of the crisis demanded the swiftest possible response.

Scott Talbott, a lobbyist for the Financial Services Roundtable, an industry group, said he thinks last week's "plunge in the Dow"—its worst ever—convinced the Treasury Department that it needed to move faster.

"Time is now of the essence," Ian Shepherdson, chief U.S. economist for the consulting firm High Frequency Economics, wrote this week in a note to clients. "The authorities do not have the luxury of mulling over the fine details; they need to act now."

Asian stock markets down after two-day rally

HONG KONG (AP)—Asian stock markets slipped Wednesday after a two-day rally, tracking Wall Street lower amid concerns that worldwide efforts to boost the financial system won't be enough to stave off a global recession.

Japan's Nikkei 225 index shed 89.98 points, or 0.95 percent to 9,357.59 after surging 14 percent in the previous session—its biggest single-day gain ever. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index lost 381.10, or 2.26 percent, to 16,451.78 after rising more than 13 percent the previous two days.

Markets in Australia, South Korea, China and Taiwan were also lower.

The drop followed U.S. markets, where major benchmarks pulled back after President George W. Bush announced the government would use part of the $700 billion financial bailout to pump capital into major banks and help get lending flowing again. European governments are investing about $2 trillion in their own ailing banks.

Despite the measures, concerns about the global economy and company profits were still weighing heavily on markets, analysts said.

"We had a huge rally on Monday and Tuesday, so there has to be some profit-taking," said Dariusz Kowalczyk, chief investment strategist for CFC Seymour in Hong Kong. "There's also more clarity about damage to the economy, and investors are likely to conclude that the rally at the beginning of the week overstates the potential for earnings."

Nation

Firefighters attack stubborn blaze near LA homes

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Flames whirled dangerously close to homes Tuesday as gusty Santa Ana winds sent the biggest of southern California's wildfires flaring in hilly brushlands on Los Angeles' northern edge and along subdivisions to the west.

Firefighters with hoses guarded houses as helicopters unleashed loads of water on hot spots of the more than 20-square-mile blaze charring slopes above the San Fernando Valley communities of Porter Ranch and Granada Hills.

Flames then pushed west to the rolling grasslands of Ventura County and made runs toward Simi Valley neighborhoods of modern homes defended by a broad firebreak, helicopters, airplanes and ground crews.

The fire is one of three major blazes that have burned more than 34 square miles of Southern California, destroyed dozens of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate their homes this week. One man died in the flames, and a motorist was killed in a crash as a fire neared a freeway.

Sixty-two structures, 15 of them homes, have been destroyed in the Porter Ranch area, said Los Angeles County fire Inspector Ron Haralson. Officials said Tuesday night they did not know how much of the fire was contained.

Ten miles away, there was major progress against Los Angeles' other big wildfire.

A 7 1/2-square-mile blaze in the northeastern San Fernando Valley was 70 percent contained and some evacuees were allowed to go home. But people who lived in an area where 38 mobile homes were destroyed were not permitted to return.

Teresa Escamilla, 47, lay on a cot in a Red Cross shelter, thinking the worst. She believed she lost everything including a shoebox containing five years of savings.

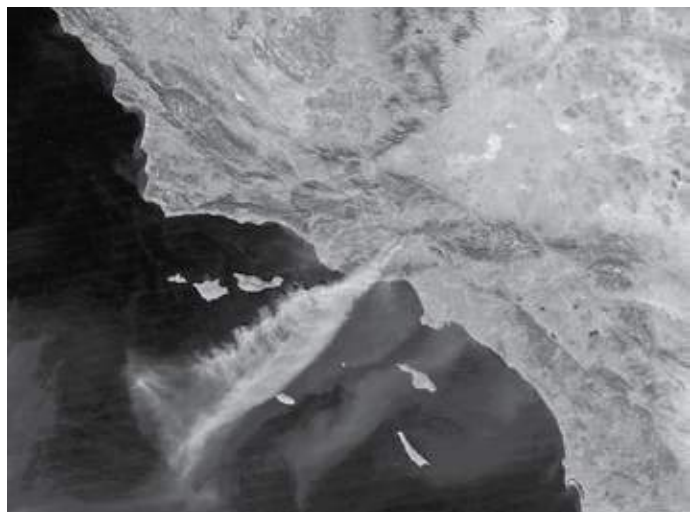
"It feels like it's not real," the nursing assistant said in Spanish. "It's a nightmare."

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa acknowledged the uncertainty facing residents of the fire areas.

"Many still don't know when they are going to return home," he told a news conference. "Our hearts and prayers are out with all of them."

On the north coast of San Diego County, a 3,600-acre fire at the Marine Corps' Camp Pendleton was 60 percent contained. Evacuation orders were largely lifted for about 2,000 Marine Corps personnel and family members in military housing and residents of about 1,500 homes in neighboring Oceanside.

In eastern San Diego County along the U.S.-Mexico border, a 200-acre fire that forced residents from 300 homes in the community of Campo was 70 percent contained and evacuations were canceled.



AP

In this satellite image released by NOAA a giant smoke cloud is seen drifting west over the Southern California coastline caused by two huge wildfires driven by strong Santa Ana winds on Monday Oct. 13, 2008.

The Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities presents:

Indigenous Land Rights in the Pacific

Views from Hawaii and the South Pacific

Saturday, October 18, 2008, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Visitors Center Theater, American Memorial Park

Rights of Indigenous Peoples under US and International Law
Jon Van Dyke, J.D.
Professor of Law, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Professor Van Dyke will examine a number of legal questions relating to indigenous rights. Who are indigenous peoples? What are their rights under the US Constitution and US laws? Are Native Hawaiians entitled to the same status under US law as other Native Americans? What are the rights of indigenous peoples under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and other treaties and documents? What is the right to self-determination? Is the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands self-governing? Is Guam? Do the indigenous peoples of the CNMI and Guam have separate or preferential rights, and if so, what are their rights? Do indigenous peoples have separate rights to the resources of coastal waters?

Constraints on Land Rights in the South Pacific:
Ethnicity, Descent, Citizenship, Residence, Wealth and Need
Dr. Ron Crocombe
Professor Emeritus, University of the South Pacific

Dr. Crocombe will examine the principles and practices of land rights in the countries and territories of the South Pacific, and describe some advantages and disadvantages associated with particular approaches. The role of ethnicity, descent, citizenship, residence, wealth and need play in land rights will also be explored. Dr. Crocombe will also discuss some of the hazards to be aware of in making land policy and his observation that only the people of the country or territory concerned should decide on the rules that will govern their lives.

The Current Drive for Land Reform in the South Pacific
Dr. Ron Crocombe
Professor Emeritus, University of the South Pacific

In his second talk, Dr. Crocombe will discuss the current drive by the government of Australia for land policy reform throughout the Pacific Islands, the goals of that initiative and the means of accomplishing them, including $54 million set aside by Australia for the purpose. It also looks at earlier drives for reform and the reasons they have achieved relatively little so far.

This event is a part of the Council's ongoing program "Article XII: Intent, Interpretations and Implications"
supported by grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities under its We the People Initiative.

Obama, McCain seek leader's image in final debate

WASHINGTON (AP)—Barack Obama and John McCain will both pursue the image of a strong leader in troublesome economic times as they meet Wednesday night for their third and final presidential debate.

Their face-off comes as Obama widens his lead in typically Democratic states and campaigns with an air of optimism about his prospects, while McCain seeks a way to gain ground and finds himself defending traditionally Republican states with less than three weeks left in the race.

"We cannot spend the next four years as we have spent much of the last eight: waiting for our luck to change. ... As president I intend to act, quickly and decisively," McCain said Tuesday in battleground Pennsylvania. There, he unveiled new economic proposals and previewed a possible debate strategy: argue that he would be different from Bush and better than Obama.

One day earlier in swing state Ohio, Obama outlined his own economic plan and showed off his own pitch. He suggested that McCain was more of the same and that putting a Democrat in charge was the only way to fix the economy's woes: "It will take a new direction. It will take new leadership in Washington. It will take a real change in the policies and politics of the last eight years."

The economic crisis has transformed the campaign over the past month. Obama has built leads nationally and in key states as the turmoil has returned the nation's focus to the unpopular Bush's policies. Now, the burden is on McCain to try to reverse his slide.

Wednesday's debate at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y., is slated to focus entirely on the economy and domestic policy. The candidates will be seated at a table with moderator Bob Schieffer of CBS.

Both presidential contenders have used the previous debates to make and remake their main campaign points, frequently sidestepping direct questions such as how they would have to scale back their long lists of campaign promises in light of the economic crisis.

Advisers for each candidate say he will use the final debate to lay out his vision for the country and promote his economic policies while drawing differences with his opponent.

Character attacks—subtle or not—also could occur.

ACROSS THE NATION

Missing Fla. girl's mom indicted on murder charge

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—The mother of a missing 3-year-old girl was arrested Tuesday and charged with killing her daughter, even though the child's body has not been found during an exhaustive four-month search. A grand jury indicted Casey Anthony on charges of first-degree murder, aggravated child abuse, aggravated manslaughter and four counts of lying to investigators about the disappearance of her daughter, Caylee, State Attorney Lawson Lamar said. The mother is being held without bond. If convicted of first-degree murder she could face the death penalty or life in prison. Prosecutors said no decision has been made on whether the death penalty will be sought. Orange County Sheriff Kevin Beary said investigators' satisfaction that the indictment had been issued was tempered by what it concludes about the girl's fate.

Ohio executes inmate who argued was too fat to die

LUCASVILLE, Ohio (AP)—The first inmate to die by lethal injection in Ohio in more than a year argued to the end that his obesity would make it difficult for prison staff to find suitable veins in his arms to deliver the deadly chemicals. During preparations for his execution Tuesday, Richard Cooey shouted for one of his attorneys as prison staff tried to insert a shunt in his left arm. "He was worried that we were on the brink of another botched execution," said Greg Meyers, an attorney with the Ohio Public Defender's Office. There were no difficulties, said Larry Greene, a spokesman for the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, where Cooey was executed for killing two University of Akron students in 1986. He was one of two people executed nationwide Tuesday. Cooey, who stood 5-foot-7 and weighed 267 pounds, said in numerous legal filings that his obesity made death by lethal injection inhumane. Problems finding veins on other inmates had delayed previous executions in Ohio.

Judge OKs $24M for cats, dogs sickened by pet food

CAMDEN, N.J. (AP)—A federal judge Tuesday approved a $24 million settlement for owners of dogs and cats who were sickened or died after eating pet food contaminated with an industrial chemical. The ruling by U.S. District Judge Noel Hillman clears the way for U.S. pet owners with claims to start receiving checks next year. A Canadian judge has scheduled a hearing for Nov. 3 to determine whether the settlement can also apply in that nation. Under the deal, pet owners have until Nov. 24 to file claims. The settlement is to compensate owners for many expenses, including: the cost of the food, medical and burial expenses for their animals, the value of the animals or the cost of replacement pets, checkups for animals who ate the food but did not get sick, replacing carpets ruined by sick pets, and time the owners took off work to seek treatment for their animals.

Asia

China orders more milk testing, HK boy sick

BEIJING (AP)—China's store shelves are being cleared of all milk and milk powder more than a month old, a huge recall that marks the latest government effort to restore consumer confidence after four babies died from drinking milk tainted with an industrial chemical.

In Hong Kong, authorities announced that another child has developed kidney stones after consuming contaminated products, bringing to eight the number of children in the territory sickened by Chinese dairy.

All of mainland China's milk powder and liquid milk produced before Sept. 14 was ordered pulled off the shelves to be tested by manufacturers, China's official Xinhua News Agency said.

"Regardless of the brand or the batch, they must be taken off shelves, their sale must be stopped," Xinhua said, citing a notice issued by six government ministries and administrations.

It was the first time the government has issued a blanket recall of products since the tainted milk scandal began.

The notice said the products will be sold only after they pass quality tests and are labeled as safe. Those that fail checks must be reported to the ministries, recalled and sealed off from consumption, it said. The notice did not say why the recall was being implemented now.

China launched a countrywide inspection of dairy producing facilities focusing on milk collecting centers on Sept. 15 - leaving open the possibility that some milk products more than a month old have yet to be scrutinized.

The notice was issued by China's chief quality watchdog, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine in conjunction with five other central government ministries and administrations. Telephones at the General Administration rang unanswered Tuesday and officials did not respond to a faxed request for information.

Taliban attacks won't ease in winter, UN rep says

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Taliban insurgents probably won't ease up on attacks in Afghanistan this winter as they have in the past, because their influence has spread beyond traditional strongholds to provinces around Kabul, the U.N. envoy to Afghanistan said Tuesday.

Attacks by insurgents are at a six-year high, Kai Eide, the world body's special representative, told the Security Council.

He said the number of attacks and other "insecurity incidents" were at the highest level since 2002, shortly after a U.S.-led coalition drove the Taliban from power.

"We should be prepared for a situation where the insurgency will not experience the same winter lull, the same reduction in hostilities, we have experienced in past winters," he added.

Eide, however, cautioned against "gloom and doom statements" that create an overly pessimistic outlook. He said there have been positive developments, including changes made by President Hamid Karzai to the Afghan government.

Afghan Ambassador Zahir Tanin concurred. "We should be careful with what we say about Afghanistan," he said. "Media outlets move with astonishing speed in Afghanistan and word of mouth carries any pessimistic news quickly to the Afghan people."

'World Bank pledges $10B to help Asian nations cope'

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Asian officials have agreed to put up a standby fund to help countries who may suffer liquidity problems as a result of the global financial crisis, with the World Bank committing US$10 billion, the Philippine president said Wednesday.

Arroyo

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said the agreement was reached in Washington after a meeting of finance officials from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations and their partners from Japan, China and South Korea and representatives of international lending institutions.

Arroyo said the fund will help the 10 ASEAN countries with severe liquidity problems, and can be used to purchase bad assets and recapitalize troubled financial institutions and private companies.

She said the Philippines was not among the affected countries, but did not say which ones may be using the fund.

Arroyo said the World Bank initially committed US$10 billion, and called on the International Monetary Fund, the Asian Development Bank, Japan, China, South Korea and the rest of ASEAN to contribute to the fund.

"The ASEAN plus three members and the multilaterals welcomed our initiative not only in providing access to financing but also more importantly in boosting confidence in the ASEAN economies," Arroyo said in a speech.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Request for Proposal
RFP 09-004

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **Provision of Technical Support Concerning the Implementation and Evaluation of Prioritized Improvement Activities as well as Consultation on the Development of the CNMI's 2007-2008 IDEA Parts B and C State Performance Plans and Annual Performance Reports.**

Detailed information on the scope of work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3 d floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked **"RFP 09-004"** containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than October 29, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Responsibility determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked **"RFP 09-004, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination"**, containing one (1) original and three (3) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively ,questions may be e-mailed to the following address: **babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.**

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid business license.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Juan D. Babauta
Acting, P&S Officer

The Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities presents:

What Are Marine Monuments?
by
Professor Jon Van Dyke, J.D.

Saturday, October 18, 2008, 6:30 p.m.
Visitors Center Theater, American Memorial Park

The proposal to establish a Northern Marianas Marine Monument has generated considerable community debate. During his presentation, Professor Jon Van Dyke will explore a number of legal and practical issues relating to marine monuments including: What are the obligations of countries to establish marine protected areas under international law to protect rare and fragile ecosystems? What kinds of marine protected areas have been established in the United States and other countries? What is a "monument" under the U.S. Antiquity Act? What management procedures have been developed to govern marine protected areas and marine monuments? How is the Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands governed? What activities are allowed and what problems have been identified? Is commercial fishing allowable in the marine protected area? What is the role of the community in governing marine protected areas? Professor Van Dyke will field questions from the audience at the conclusion of his talk.

Professor Van Dyke has been on the faculty of the University of Hawai`i School of Law since 1976 where he has taught Constitutional Law and International Law. Professor Van Dyke has written five books including *Sharing the Resources of the South China Sea* and *Freedom for the Seas in the 21st Century* which was awarded the Harold and Margaret Sprout Award for 1994 by the International Studies Association. Since coming to Hawai`i, Professor Van Dyke has worked on problems related to the state's constitution, growth management, reapportionment, water rights, the status of Native Hawaiians, nuclear waste, ocean law, international environmental law, and human rights.

This event is a part of the Council's ongoing program "Article XII: Intent, Interpretations and Implications" supported by grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities under its We the People Initiative.

World

Aid agencies: World's poor will be biggest victims

GENEVA (AP)—The world's poorest people will be hungrier, sicker and have fewer jobs as a result of the global financial crisis, and cash-strapped aid agencies will be less able to help, aid groups are warning.

The charities that provide food, medicine and other relief on the ground say cutbacks have already started, but it will take months or more before the full impact is felt in the poorest countries of Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Aid agencies face more than just the prospect of plummeting donations. The economic conditions themselves—higher food prices and more joblessness—are greatly increasing the number of people who need assistance.

Philippe Guiton of World Vision told The Associated Press that his agency plans to cut back hiring, which will have implications for delivering aid to the needy overseas.

"What we are going to do now is to issue an order to reduce spending, to delay recruitment, delay purchases of capital assets, etc., until we can see clearer how much our income has dropped," he said.

Robert Glasser, secretary-general of CARE International, said the agency has "a number of major donors who have invested heavily in the markets and have now seen their portfolios take a big hit."

What that will mean on the ground could take months or more to gauge—and perhaps years for a complete recovery, aid groups say.

In impoverished Haiti, funding for projects to rebuild from tropical storms that killed nearly 800 people and destroyed more than half the nation's agriculture hangs in the balance.

"It's too soon to tell yet because we haven't heard back positively or negatively from our major donors," Greg Elder, deputy head of programming for U.S-based Catholic Relief Services, said by telephone from the battered southern port of Les Cayes.

The group is waiting for word from the U.S. Agency for International Development on whether it will get $2 million for 10 new food-for-work projects, which provide Haitians with rations in exchange for building roads, irrigation systems and environmental projects.

An additional $500,000 is needed to repair 12 existing projects whose work was wiped out by the storms. "It's just we can't start these new projects, these rehabilitation projects, until we get the go-ahead," Elder said.

A June 29, 2008 file photo shows two Afghan widows sitting on the ground after they received their monthly food ration distributed by an international aid group, in Kabul, Afghanistan. AP

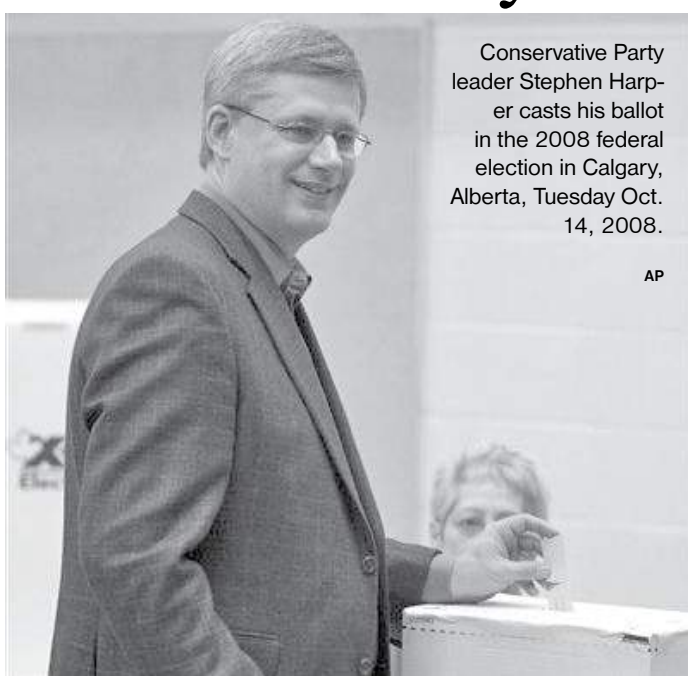
Canada's Conservative Party wins re-election

OTTAWA (AP)—Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, the first major world leader to face voters since the global financial meltdown, led his Conservative Party to victory in Tuesday's election but was forecast to fall short of a majority in Parliament.

The election agency reported on its Web site that the Conservatives had won or was leading in races for 143 of Parliament's 308 seats, an improvement over the 127 seats the party had in the previous Parliament.

But, based on results obtained directly from election officials, Canadian Broadcasting Corp. predicted the Conservative Party would not win the 155 seats needed to govern on its own. That would force it to again rely on opposition support to pass budgets and legislation—as it has had to since a 2006 election victory.

Harper had called elections early in hopes of getting his party a majority, but the Conservatives sought to put a good face on the results, pointing to their increased number of seats.



Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper casts his ballot in the 2008 federal election in Calgary, Alberta, Tuesday Oct. 14, 2008. AP

"Our party is bigger, our support base is broader and more and more Canadians are finding a home in the Conservative Party of Canada," Harper said early Wednesday.

"We have shown that minority government can work and at this time of global economic instability we owe it to Canadians to demonstrate this once again," he added.

The Liberal Party, long Canada's top party, suffered a severe drubbing, dropping about two dozen seats from 95 in the previous Parliament, according to the election agency. Bloc Quebecois led for about 50 seats, the New Democrats just under 40 and independent candidates 2.

Liberal Party leader Stephane Dion conceded to Harper earlier Wednesday.

"I have talked to Prime Minister Harper to offer him congratulations and my full cooperation in these difficult economic times," Dion said.

The party winning the most seats generally forms the government, with its leader becoming prime minister. The opposition parties could unite and topple Harper if they won enough seats for a majority, but analysts said that was unlikely because the parties have no tradition of forming such coalitions.

World Court to rule on Georgia-Russia case

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—The International Court of Justice plans to rule Wednesday on whether to order Russia to take immediate steps to halt what Georgia calls ethnic cleansing in the breakaway regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Moscow and Tbilisi fought a five-day war in August for control of the regions, which Russia has recognized as independent states and which Georgia says are part of its territory.

In the immediate aftermath of the fighting, Georgia appealed to the U.N.'s highest court to impose emergency measures to stop what Tbilisi says is a two-decade campaign of racial discrimination by Russia and its separatist allies against ethnic Georgians in the regions.

The 15-judge panel must first rule whether it has jurisdiction before deciding what, if any, emergency measures to impose. The court's orders are binding, but it has no way of enforcing them.

It will take the court years to deal with Georgia's case, which seeks compensation for alleged breaches of the 1965 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

At preliminary hearings last month, lawyers for Georgia accused Russian forces, local militias and mercenaries of conducting a campaign of murder and forced displacement starting in the early 1990s after the Soviet Union crumbled.

Georgia claims the campaign has left thousands of civilians dead and forced 10 percent of the country's population to flee their homes.

Syria establishes diplomatic ties with Lebanon

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Syria formally recognized Lebanon for the first time Tuesday by establishing diplomatic relations with its neighbor—meeting a U.S. demand to do more for regional stability even as Damascus pursues indirect peace talks with Israel.

Lebanon and Syria have not had formal diplomatic ties since both gained independence from France in the 1940s and the move by President Bashar Assad ends six decades of non-recognition. Both countries announced plans to open embassies by the end of the year.

Lebanon's Western-backed prime minister, Fuad Saniora, praised the development as a "historic step on the road to confirming Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and its free decision-making."

"It is the situation which Lebanon and the Lebanese have long hoped for," he said.

Relations between the Arab nations have been lopsided since the 1970s, when Syria sent its army into Lebanon and retained control there for nearly 30 years. Ties unraveled when former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri was killed in a 2005 car bombing that many Lebanese blame on Syria—a charge Syria denies.

WORLD BRIEFS

Hurricane Omar batters Aruba, heads for US islands

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, U.S. Virgin Islands (AP)—Omar strengthened into a hurricane late Tuesday and drenched islands in the southeastern Caribbean, downing trees and blowing off a school's roof as it menaced U.S. islands. Authorities issued a hurricane warning for the U.S. Virgin islands as well as Puerto Rico's Vieques and Culebra islands. Hurricane warnings were also in place for St. Martin, the British Virgin Islands, St. Kitts and Nevis and other islands. Officials in Puerto Rico, already soaked from several days of rain, warned residents to prepare for a lot more and medical authorities appealed for blood donations for possible casualties. Omar was a Category 1 hurricane with 75 mph (120 kph) winds, and the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami projected it to continue to gain strength. The center predicted the storm would likely pass by Puerto Rico overnight Wednesday, and possibly deliver a direct blow to the nearby U.S. and British Virgin Islands.

Gitmo lawyer consulted priest on trials' fairness

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Struggling with orders to prosecute a young detainee at Guantanamo Bay, Army Lt. Col. Darrel Vandeveld went online and consulted a priest for help with his concerns about the fairness of the military tribunals. Vandeveld described a crisis of conscience over the prisoners' treatment and the ethical handling of cases that led him to quit last month. "I am beginning to have grave misgivings about what I am doing, and what we are doing as a country," he wrote in the e-mail on Aug 5. "I no longer want to participate in the system, but I lack the courage to quit. I am married, with four children, and not only will they suffer, I'll lose a lot of friends." Vandeveld has sparked criticism of the tribunals with claims that the government withheld evidence from detainees. But his correspondence with the priest and other statements suggest his defection was driven also by discomfort with the unforgiving treatment of detainees at the isolated U.S. Navy base in Cuba.

Ukraine, other small nations face crisis alone

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—While the world's economic giants may have averted financial collapse through rescue plans and huge infusions of cash, some smaller countries like Ukraine seem to have stumbled with little help on the horizon. Among the most vulnerable states, it seems, are some of the young democracies born after the fall of the Soviet empire, which have seen their economies race ahead under democratic rule and capitalism - only to run smack into a global financial crisis. Facing bank failures, turbulent markets and rapid inflation, Ukraine's politically fractured government imposed a series of emergency measures this week to shore up the economy. At a news conference Tuesday, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko dodged the question of whether Ukraine was seeking help from the International Monetary Fund, which would confirm fears about the state of Ukraine's economy. Instead, she offered broad assurances that there was no need for panic.

Environment

Brown tree snakes: A primer

Emma Mccullough-Stearns

By EMMA MCCULLOUGH-STEARNS
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, 10TH GRADE

The brown tree snake is an invasive species that was introduced to Guam shortly after the end of World War II. The brown tree snake has had a devastating effect on Guam's bird and reptile life, and it has caused numerous problems with Guam's power system. Millions of dollars have been spent trying to prevent the spread of the brown tree snake to other Pacific islands.

It is believed that a pregnant brown tree snake was transported from the Solomon Islands to Guam along with sea cargo shipments after World War II. After the shipment arrived on Guam, it is thought that the snake escaped and laid her eggs. Slowly the brown tree snake population began to spread and by 1985, about 40 years after they were first introduced, brown tree snake were found all over Guam. About that same time, residents of Guam began noticing things happening to their chickens, puppies, birds and other small animals. Biologists and other people began noticing that the native bird population was decreasing severely. Many types of small animals were disappearing, and it wasn't clear why. Many people thought it had something to do with the snakes, but most biologists were convinced that it was some sort of disease affecting the animals. One biologist, Julie Savidge, became certain that the problem was the brown tree snake. It took her about four years to convince the other biologists that it was in fact the snakes causing the problems, and not a disease.

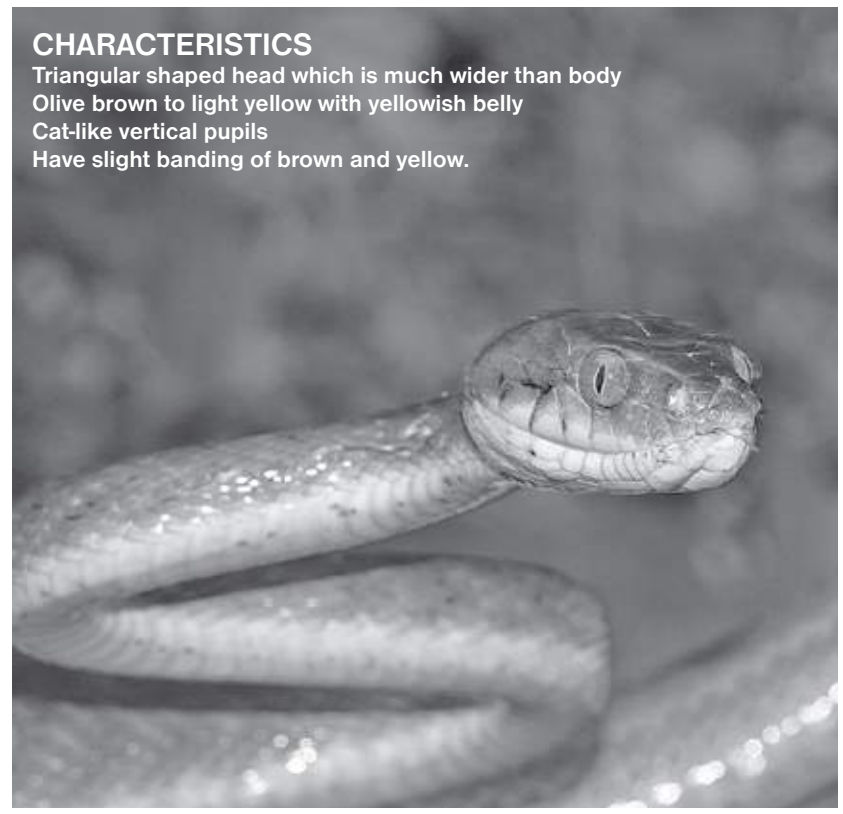
In 1989, approximately $30,000 was given to help with the snake problem and now approximately $6.4 million is divided up between Saipan, Hawaii and the Federated States of Micronesia for brown tree snake control. This money has been spent buying and maintaining snake traps, educating the public, training dogs and people. There are currently more than 500 brown tree snake traps in the CNMI, located primarily at the airports and marinas, but so far no snakes have been captured in a CNMI trap. Each trap has to be checked weekly to replace the bait, which is usually a live mouse, as well as to check if any snakes have been caught.

Another portion of the money has been used to train dogs to detect brown tree snakes. These dogs are used in searching for brown tree snakes at the seaports and airports. The dogs must be re-trained weekly in order for them to remember what they are looking for. The dogs are also trained to sniff out turtles, coconut crabs, and fruit bats so the dogs won't get bored. Saipan has five of the specially trained dogs and Tinian has one. Public education has also been a main part of brown tree snake control. There have been frequent presentations at schools designed to educate the public about the brown tree snake problem.

In conclusion, it is very important to try and prevent the introduction of brown tree snakes into Saipan and other Pacific islands in order to protect the bird life, especially the endangered species. It is also important to prevent power outages and to protect the residents of these islands.

If you see a brown tree snake, kill it and then call 28-SNAKE (287-6253) for further assistance. "Don't Give Snakes a Break!"

Note: The Division of Fish and Wildlife's Brown Tree Snake Program presented information for Saipan International School. Next week, you will hear from Harrison Smith about the Brown Tree Snake program.


CHARACTERISTICS
Triangular shaped head which is much wider than body
Olive brown to light yellow with yellowish belly
Cat-like vertical pupils
Have slight banding of brown and yellow.

It is very important to try and prevent the introduction of brown tree snakes into Saipan and other Pacific islands in order to protect the bird life, especially the endangered species.

E-cycling your e-wastes

E-wastes are consumer electronics, such as TVs, video equipment, computers, keyboards, and phones. They make up a small percentage in the waste stream, but their quantity is steadily increasing as more are replaced with newer, faster gadgets.

Electronic products are made from valuable resources, such as precious and other metals, plastics, and glass, all of which require energy to mine and manufacture them. Reusing and recycling these materials from end-of-life electronics conserves our natural resources and avoids air and water pollution, as well as greenhouse gas emissions that are caused by manufacturing new products.

There are many benefits to e-cycling:

Conserves natural resources. Recycling recovers valuable materials from old electronics that can be used to make new products. As a result, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce pollution, save energy, and save resources by extracting fewer raw materials from the earth.

Protects your surroundings. Safe recycling of outdated electronics promotes sound management of toxic chemicals such as lead and mercury.

Helps others. Donating your used electronics benefits your community by passing on ready-to-use or refurbished equipment to those who need it.

However, before you recycle it, look into donating your older electronics first. Prior to donating, make sure the recipient will be able to use it and make minor upgrades or repairs.

	Generated (million of units)	Disposed (million of units)	Recycled (million of units)	Recycling Rate (by weight)
Television	26.9	20.6	6.3	18%
Computer Products*	205.5	157.3	48.2	18%
Cell Phones	140.3	126.3	14.0	10%

*Computer products include CPUs, monitors, notebooks, keyboards, mice, and hard copy peripherals.

Recycling vs Disposal

Of the 2.25 million tons of TVs, cell phones and computer products ready for end-of-life (EOL) management, 18 percent (414,000 tons) was collected for recycling and 82 percent (1.84 million tons) was disposed of, primarily in landfills.

From 1999 through 2005, recycling rate was relatively constant at about 15 percent. During these years, the amount of electronics recycled increased but the percentage did not because the amount of electronics sent for end of life management increased each year as well.

For 2006-2007, the recycling rate increased to 18 percent, possibly because several states have started mandatory collection and recycling programs for electronics.

Almost all of the materials used to manufacture a cell phone can be recovered to make new products. Metals, plastics, batteries and the packaging materials can be recycled and turned into new products.

Cell phones contain a number of different metals—gold, silver, platinum, palladium, rhodium, copper, tin, lead, brass and zinc - that can be extracted and recovered in the recycling process. The recovered metals can be used by a number of different industries such as jewelry, plating, electronics, plumbing, automotive, and art foundries. Products that can be manufactured from the recovered materials include automotive catalytic converters, plumbing faucets and piping, and gold or silver jewelry.

The plastic on the cell phone can also be recycled. It can be recycled into new products as garden furniture, license plate frames, non-food containers and replacement automotive parts. Due to its high thermal value, the plastic could alternatively be used as a fuel.

The cell phone packaging materials can also be recycled and made as a component of fiber board manufacture. When the rechargeable battery can no longer be reused, the battery can be recycled into other rechargeable battery products. ***(www.epa.gov/e-Cycling)***

Life & Style

The beat returns to Club V with Streetbeat

Streetbeat, arguably the most popular band ever to perform at Saipan Grand Hotel's Club V, is back on the island for a return engagement, and is now gearing up for its first performance on Friday during the back-to-back concert with 7th Side.

Topbilled by Saipan veterans Derf Cabael, Mike Elbambo, and Jel Aquino, and members Choy Leonardo (lead guitar), Jonathan Borja (keyboards), and John Sablawon (bass guitar), Streetbeat welcomes two new members to the group: vocalist Elaine Ang and drummer Edison Pasumbal.

Still suffering from the after-effects of the long flight time from Manila to Saipan via a nine-hour layover in Nagoya, the band members sat down with the *Saipan Tribune* yesterday for a welcome-to-the-island interview.

Derf said they are all excited to be back on Saipan and are looking forward to performing again at Club V. "Of course, we're also under more pressure due to higher expectations from our audience," he added.

Elaine, who's new to Saipan, said she is more nervous than excited and hopes that Club V patrons will embrace the band again the same way they were embraced the first time they were here.

"We're very excited to meet our audience and fans on the 17th. See you all at Club V, guys," she said.

When asked how the band feels about its popularity on Saipan, Derf said they feel flattered and thankful. "And blessed," added Jel.

It's been a year since their last performance on the island. What has Streetbeat been doing since that time?

"We've been to different places in Korea and Indonesia," said Derf.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Streetbeat, the most popular band ever to perform at Saipan Grand Hotel's Club V.

In South Korea, Streetbeat won the Best Country Performer Award during the Travel Mart competition held in November 2007.

Sablawon said they competed with bands from different countries such as China, Singapore, South Korea, and Malaysia, and they were sent by the Philippine Department of Tourism to represent the country at the competition. In all, there were about 15 bands that joined the contest.

The Streetbeat is the fifth band to perform at Club V since it started featuring live band performances. The last time they were here was also in October last year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vocalists Derf Cabael, Mike Elbambo, and Jel Aquino and members Choy Leonardo (lead guitar), Jonathan Borja (keyboards), and John Sablawon (bass guitar), are joined by two new members: vocalist Elaine Ang and drummer Edison Pasumbal.

Popular band

Tan Holdings executive Ivan Quichocho said they decided to bring back Streetbeat to Club V because it has been ranked No. 1 in popularity among all the bands that Club V has ever featured.

"The diversity of their music is very wide and they are experts in different genres. Also, they are very experienced, have awesome showmanship, and fantastic interaction with our customers," he said.

Club V was so intent on getting Streetbeat back that they sought them out in Indonesia, where they were performing, Quichocho said.

"Come on out and feel the beat again because the Streetbeat is back in force with all-new stuff for everyone's enjoyment," he urged.

Quichocho expressed gratitude to all of Club V's loyal patrons for "helping us keep the high quality of entertainment coming to the islands."

Back-to-back concert

Saipan will have the chance to catch Streetbeat's first performance this Friday, Oct. 17, during a back-to-back show with outgoing band 7th Side at the Club V.

This time, the night will begin with a dinner buffet from 6pm to 8pm, with open bar, for just $20, according to Saipan Grand Hotel events and outlets manager Oscar Yema.

The dinner buffet will feature appetizers, a main course, and desserts, Yema said. The open bar will feature Pacific Trading Co. products such as Miller family of beers, and well drinks.

From 8pm onward, Club V will be open to the rest of the public for $5 entrance and one free drink.

Sponsors for Friday night's back-to-back performance are SaipanCell, Titan, Pacific Trading Co., and Stress-Free. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Aravind Adiga wins literature's Man Booker prize

LONDON (AP)—Aravind Adiga won the prestigious Man Booker award Tuesday for his first novel "The White Tiger."

Adiga won the $87,000 prize for his book about a protagonist who will use any means necessary to fulfill his dream of escaping impoverished village life for success in the big city.

At 34, Adiga was the youngest of the finalists for the literary prize.

The chairman of the judges, Michael Portillo, said the book was an impressive work.

"The novel is in many ways perfect. It is quite difficult to find any structural flaws with it," he said.

AP

Indian author Aravind Adiga, seen with The Booker Prize award, following an award ceremony, at the Guildhall, in the City of London, Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2008.

Some have accused Adiga, who lives in Mumbai, of painting a negative picture of modern India and its huge underclass. But Adiga said he wanted to write about all aspects of Indian society.

"In India if you really want to get out and do a book you have to make a conscious effort to connect to people in every conceivable way, " he told the British Broadcasting Corp. after winning the prize.

Adiga is the fourth Indian-born author to win the prize, and joins compatriots Salman Rushdie, Arundhati Roy and Kiran Desai. A fifth winner, V.S. Naipaul is of Indian ancestry.

The other authors shortlisted for the prize were Steve Toltz, Sebastian Barry, Amitav Ghosh, Linda Grant, and Philip Hensher.

London rail station axes falling passenger artwork

LONDON (AP)—The sculpture shows a man about to fall under a subway car driven by a Grim Reaper figure.

Its creator says it was meant as a tribute to train drivers and the risks they face. But the work's planned home, a London railway station, said Monday it had canceled plans to put it on display after complaints by railway unions and the families of suicide victims.

Officials at St. Pancras Station, the hub for Eurostar high-speed shuttle services to France and Belgium, said the carving by sculptor Paul Day was inappropriate.

The image was intended as part of a bronze frieze encircling the base of Day's work "The Meeting Place," a 30-foot (9 meter) statue of an embracing couple that stands on the station concourse.

A clay model of part of the frieze went on display at the station last week. It shows a series of railway-related scenes, including soldiers heading off to war and emergency workers helping victims of the July 7, 2005 London transit bombings.

Day said the contentious image - shown reflected in a pair of sunglasses - was meant "as a view of the mind's eye of a train driver."

"Rather than depicting suicide, it is depicting the fears these drivers do face," Day told BBC radio. He said he hoped it would encourage people to "respect and admire that particular job."

A train drivers' union and families of people who have committed suicide on the railways criticized the image as insensitive.

Station owner London and Continental Railways said the frieze would go ahead without the disputed section.

Spokesman Ben Ruse said the company welcomed Day's "challenging" work. But he said CEO Rob Holden had decided that "the particular scene of a rail passenger in front of a Tube train will not form part of the final frieze."

The finished frieze is due to be in place by mid-2009.

'SNL' this week? You betcha Tina Fey doesn't know

In this Oct. 13, 2008 file photo, actress Tina Fey arrives for a taping of the "Late Show With David Letterman" in New York.

AP

NEW YORK (AP)—It's the question dominating the political scene: When will Tina Fey be back on "Saturday Night Live"?

"I don't know," Fey said.

Over coffee Tuesday during a rare morning off from her NBC sitcom, "30 Rock," Fey noted that "SNL" will be on live this Saturday, as well as airing a 9:30 p.m. EDT Thursday edition, but as to whether she will take part in either broadcast, "I haven't heard." (A spokesman for the NBC late-night comedy show echoed her comments.)

The former "SNL" cast member/head writer thus far has been drafted for three appearances as Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin. The sketches were a huge hit for the show and Fey alike.

"It's been really fun," she said, "and really freeing since I don't actually work there anymore."

But it's put an extra burden on her already heavy workload at "30 Rock," where she's an executive producer and writer as well as star.

"Thankfully, the `SNL' schedule is the opposite of the `30 Rock' schedule, so I can go to `SNL' around 10:30 Friday night and rehearse," she said, explaining that the Palin pieces were written by current "SNL" head writer Seth Meyers. "Then on Saturday, I go in around 4 o'clock."

For her most recent appearance (on Oct. 4) "I had a `30 Rock' writer come for the dress rehearsal. I did my sketch, worked on the `30 Rock' outline with the writer, then did the live show.

"It's not as bad as it sounds," Fey added with a laugh. "But it does catch up with you by Sunday."

Fey hopes the attention drawn to her Palin impersonation will bring more viewers to "30 Rock," which begins its third season Oct. 30.

"When people say, `Oh, I love you on your show,' I say, '"Saturday Night Live" isn't my show. But there's another show that will be back on soon, and it's called "30 Rock."'

"I should go to Kinko's and make some fliers," she cracked.

Fey believes her portrayal of the Alaska governor has "been responsible and really pretty gentle."

As demand builds for another Palin spoof, Fey said: "I don't know how much more I should do or could do, so I'm taking it week by week.

"It's getting large, it's getting too large, the question `Are you gonna show up? Are you gonna do it?'

"I don't know," Fey said. "I've got a lot of `30 Rock' work to do!"

Rather says debates are putting people to sleep

NEW YORK (AP)—Dan Rather believes the last presidential debate put many Americans to sleep.

The former CBS News anchorman said the formats for the debates are so restrictive that it's tough to really call them debates. He blamed the campaigns for having too much influence in setting up the rules.

"These so-called debates are not for the people, by the people," Rather said Tuesday at a conference on media and politics sponsored by CNN and Time magazine. "They are for the parties, by the parties."

Rather's one-time competitor, Tom Brokaw, was moderator of the second presidential debate between John McCain and Barack Obama. His former CBS News colleague Bob Schieffer is moderating the final debate Wednesday in suburban New York.

The 77-year-old Rather - who's suing CBS for $70 million, claiming the network removed him from the "CBS Evening News" and gave him little to do in the wake of a discredited report about President Bush's Vietnam-era military service - called it "standard procedure" for political campaigns to criticize the media when there are issues they don't want to discuss, and most of the time it doesn't work.

He called on reporters, however, to stand tall and ask tough questions. "The press should be fiercely independent, even ornery at times," he said.

Neal Hefti, the composer of 'Batman' theme, dies at 85

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Neal Hefti, a Big Band trumpeter, arranger and composer of themes for the movie "The Odd Couple" and the "Batman" television series, has died. He was 85.

Hefti died Saturday at his home, said his son Paul Hefti.

Neal Hefti's notable achievements include the iconic theme of the 1960s superhero series "Batman," which became a Top 40 hit and won a Grammy Award in 1966 for best instrumental theme. He also composed music for "The Odd Couple," "Barefoot in the Park" and "Harlow," which featured his classic track "Girl Talk."

His son said the "Batman" theme was Neal Hefti's most difficult piece, taking him at least one month to compose the driving bass and explosive trumpet bursts.

"He threw away more music paper on this thing than any other song," Paul Hefti told The Associated Press. "It got down to the blues with a funny guitar hook, the lowest common denominator and a fun groove."

Neal Hefti was born Oct. 29, 1922, in Hastings, Neb., and played trumpet with local bands as a teenager to earn money.

As an adult, he worked with and arranged music for the greats of the Big Band era, including Count Basie, Woody Herman, Charlie Spivak and Harry James.

"He was one of the really great arrangers and composers of all time," radio and television personality Gary Owens, a longtime friend, told the Los Angeles Times.

In Celebration of His New Life

Juan Borja King

Affectionately known as "Tun Ku"

Born to life on February 28, 1928, on Rota, Juan was called to his eternal rest on Thursday, October 9, 2008, on Tinian, at the age of 80.

In his new Life, Juan now joins his mother, Juana Dela Cruz Borja King and father, Jose King; and siblings, Ignacio B. King, Rosa K. Quichocho, Ramon B. King, and Jose B. King.

His memory will live forever in the hearts of his daughter, Margarita Jones Castro, and her family; his wife, Hwa Cha (Lucy) Han King, and their daughters, Janet Han King, Esq., and Lisa Han King; and sister, Dolores Borja Hocog of Rota.

And his nieces and nephews:
Juan M. Atalig (& Lourdes D. Atalig and Family); Theodosia King Sanchez (& †Edward S. Sanchez and Family); Sabina King Aldan (& Ramon P. Aldan and Family); Vincent T. King (& Josephine C. King and Family); †Victoria King Mendiola (& †David M. Mendiola and Family); Jose T. King (& Tina King and Family); Celina T. King (& Gary P. Aldan and Family); Henry T. King (& (Jackie Villagomez King and Family); Juanita King (& Joe Troutman and Family); Juan T. King (& Annie Hofschneider King and Family); Sylvia King Biz (& Marcelino P. Biz and Family); Rosita King Aldan (& Congressman Edwin P. Aldan and Family); Brian T. King (& Vanessa P. Aldan and Family); and

Ignacio King Quichocho (& Family); †Edward K. Quichocho; Elisa K. Quichocho (& Family); Edward K. Quichocho (& Marivic De Castro Quichocho and Family); Celia Q. Diaz (& Family); Joshua K. Quichocho (& Noemi Rivera Quichocho and Family); David K. Quichocho (& Neri Quichocho and Family); Linda Q. Lebante (& Diego Lebante and Family); Ramon K. Quichocho, Esq. (& Frances Quichocho and Family); and Rosa Q. Rabara (& Gil Rabara and Family); and

†Edward B. Hocog (& Alice Atalig and Family); Janet H. Ogo (& Pete Ogo and Family); Lydia H. Aldan (& Joe Aldan and Family); Congressman Victor B. Hocog (& Villia M. Hocog and Family); Dr. Larry B. Hocog (& Matilde Hocog and Family); Vianney Hocog (& Angie Hocog and Family).

Juan will also be missed by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Rosary is being said nightly at his and Lucy's residence in San Jose Village, Tinian, at 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, October 18th, his remains will be escorted from Tinian Health Center at 7:30 a.m. to the San Jose Church. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 a.m. Burial will follow at San Jose Cemetary.

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Ginen I Familia

MTV, CNN partner for concert to support veterans

NEW YORK (AP)– MTV's Choose or Lose campaign and CNN have partnered to broadcast a concert supporting veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

"A Night for Vets: An MTV Concert for the BRAVE" will air Oct. 24 on MTV (8 p.m. EDT) from a performance taped in New York the previous day. The show's name alludes to a petition MTV and several veterans' organizations created called the Bill of Rights for American Veterans (BRAVE).

On Oct. 25, CNN will air a special of "Anderson Cooper 360" titled "Back From Battle" that focuses on stories of young veterans.

The concert will feature performances by 50 Cent, Ludacris and Saving Abel, as well as taped performances by Kanye West, Kid Rock, Fall Out Boy, Angels and Airwaves, Nelly, Juanes and Taylor Swift. Making taped appearances will be Beyonce, Will Ferrell, Jennifer Hudson, John Legend and others.

News packages from CNN and MTV News will air throughout the special, which will be held in front of an audience of young veterans and their families.

"It doesn't matter where you stand on the war, we can all agree that young veterans serving our country must receive the benefits they've earned for their sacrifices," said Van Toffler, president of MTV Networks. "We aim to elevate these issues and ensure they're a top priority for our government officials."

Collaboration on the BRAVE petition came from Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, Veterans for America and Wounded Warrior Project.

AP

In this Oct. 13, 2008 file photo, actor Chris "Ludacris" Bridges arrives at the premiere of "Max Payne" in the Hollywood area of Los Angeles.

'One Tree Hill' creator signs up for 7th season

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—The creator of the TV series "One Tree Hill" hopes the CW will decide by the first of the year whether to bring back the series now that he's agreed to head a seventh season.

In a phone interview from Wilmington, where the series is based, Mark Schwahn said he told the network he would like to know if the show is returning before filming begins on the last four to five episodes. To do that, he would need to know by Jan. 1.

"They (the CW) doesn't owe me that, but I feel like they owe it to the fans," Schwahn said.

Mark Schwahn has signed three deals, including a one-year agreement with Warner Bros. TV to continue as executive producer for a possible seventh season. His other deals include a two-year deal with CBS Paramount Network TV to develop new projects and a deal with CBS Records to begin his own imprint.

The CBS television deal allows him to remain at the helm of "One Tree Hill" if a seventh season is negotiated with the actors, whose six-year contracts end after this season.

In interviews in August, the actors who play Lucas, Peyton, Brooke, Nathan and Hayley were divided on whether they were interested in a seventh season.

But minds change, even over two months, and a regular paycheck can be a good thing in this economic climate.

"We all make a lot of money making this TV show," Schwahn said. "We feel very fortunate to have jobs."

On the other hand, it's a young cast and "when you're young, you're inclined to wonder what else is out there," he said. "They may want to go out and explore."

Anne Hathaway's ex: Bad acts had good intentions

NEW YORK (AP)—Anne Hathaway's ex-boyfriend is asking a court to sentence him to three years in prison, rather than the more than four years he agreed to when he admitted scamming the Catholic Church.

Raffaello Follieri's lawyer said in papers submitted to a Manhattan federal court Tuesday that the Italian businessman had good intentions when he created a company to buy church property at cheap prices.

Attorney Flora Edwards says Follieri "became intoxicated with it all" after he found himself socializing with some of the world's wealthiest and most successful people.

She says he succumbed to the temptation of misusing other people's money because he lacked the resources to live his friends' opulent lifestyle.

The 30-year-old Follieri is scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 23.

Not my dad's GOP: Buckley leaves National Review

NEW YORK (AP)—A week after endorsing Democrat Barack Obama for president, Christopher Buckley, a writer and son of William F. Buckley Jr., is leaving *National Review*, the conservative magazine founded by his father more than 50 years ago.

"Within hours of my endorsement appearing in *The Daily Beast* it became clear that National Review had a serious problem on its hands," Buckley wrote in a blog posted Tuesday on http://www.thedailybeast.com , the online broadsheet founded by Tina Brown.

"So the next morning, I thought the only decent thing to do would be to offer to resign my column there. This offer was accepted—rather briskly!—by Rich Lowry, NR's editor, and its publisher, the superb and able and fine Jack Fowler."

Buckley, a best-selling novelist who had been a featured columnist at the *National Review*, infuriated conservatives last week by declaring himself "the latest conservative/libertarian/whatever to leap onto the Barack Obama bandwagon."

AP

In this Nov. 8, 2007 file photo writer Christopher Buckley arrives at the Atlantic Magazine's 150 Anniversary celebration in New York.

He criticized Republican John McCain as "irascible and snarly" and credited Obama with having "a first-class temperament and a first-class intellect."

"It's a good thing my dear old mum and pup are no longer alive. They'd cut off my allowance," he wrote for *The Daily Beast*.

(William F. Buckley Jr., a founder of the modern conservative movement, and his longtime wife, Pat, both died within the past two years.)

On his blog posting Tuesday, Christopher Buckley—whose books include "Thank You for Smoking" and the recent "Supreme Courtship"—said he had received a great deal of angry e-mails and observed that "conservatives have always had a bit of trouble with the concept of diversity. The GOP likes to say it's a big tent. Looks more like a yurt to me."

Lowry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Michael Lohan's charity boxing match set

NEW YORK (AP)—He's taken his lumps in the tabloids; now he'll be ducking swings in the boxing ring.

Michael Lohan, the estranged father of Lindsay Lohan, will face Bob Venero, the president of Future Tech Enterprise, in an upcoming charity boxing match.

Organizers said Tuesday that Venero bid $30,000 to box Lohan.

Lohan last week put himself up to the highest bidder for the chance to fight him in the Nov. 24 match at the Hilton Long Island. Proceeds will go to charities including the Long Island Community Chest, which provides financial support to needy families.

Sponsors say actor Stephen Baldwin has agreed to be a judge.

In the past, Lohan has publicly feuded with his actress-daughter and her mother, Dina Lohan.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Modesta Agulto Bartolo

Better known as: **"Betang and Betty"**
Was called to her eternal rest
in the grace of our Lord on Sunday,
October 12, 2008, at the CHC at the age of 53.

Born: November 4, 1954
Died: October 12, 2008

She now joins her:

Parents: Tomas C. Agulto & Ana B. Agulto
Sister: Maria B. Agulto
Brothers: Pedro B. Agulto, Jesus B. Agulto
Niece: Katherine A. Deleon Guerrero
Brother-in-Law: Francisco A. Masga, Jesus A. Masga
Sister-in-Law: Francisca M. Masga, Sabina A. Masga, Carmen A. Masga

She is survived by her :

Husband: Pedro Calma Bartolo

Children and Family:
Arlene A. Masga /Anson Olebuu (Anson Jr.)
Erica M. /Carlito Dl. Trinidad (Gavin Thomas, Erili Mae)

Former Husband and Family: Jesus A. Masga & Guohua Z. Masga (Joseph)

Brother/Sister/In-laws:
Dolores M. Agulto & Family
Eloy S. & Dolores A. Inos & Family
Jose B. & Francine M. Agulto & Family
Nicolasa S. Masga & Family
Joe A. Reyes & Darlene Duenas & Family

She is additionally survived by numerous nieces and nephews, godchildren, cousins and friends.

Nightly Mass will be offered every night at St. Jude Church at 6:00 p.m. beginning October 14, 2008 to October 19, 2008. The Holy Rosary will follow immediately. Last respects will be paid on October 20, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. at St. Jude Church. The Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. Burial will immediately follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

'Ellen' airs video against gay marriage ban

AP

In this Sept. 28, 2008 file photo, comedian Ellen DeGeneres, left, and actress Portia de Rossi pose on the press line at the "Yes! On Prop 2" benefit gala in Los Angeles. DeGeneres has made a Public Service Announcement asking California voters to oppose a ballot initiative that would ban same-sex marriage.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres has made a public service announcement urging California voters to oppose a ballot initiative that would ban same-sex marriage.

DeGeneres married actress Portia de Rossi on Aug. 16, two months after the California Supreme Court ruling that legalized gay marriage took effect. In recent days, the popular talk show host has been criticized in the gay press for not giving money to the campaign to defeat Proposition 8 or otherwise lending her star presence to the cause.

She still hasn't made a campaign contribution, but on Tuesday she posted a video on her show's Web site. She said when she got married it was the happiest day of her life.

DeGeneres' mother, Betty, has given $700 to help defeat the initiative.

ABBA member gets money back from taxman

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP)—A former member of ABBA can cash in 85 million kronor (US$12 million) after winning a court case against the national tax authority.

Ulvaeus

Bjorn Ulvaeus' legal adviser says a court approved his appeal against a decision to increase the amount of his income it considered taxable.

Ulvaeus signed contracts to hand over the rights to his song royalties to different companies. He claimed that excluded them from his personal income.

Swedish authorities had claimed the deals were shams and that the star still had access to the money and should include them as his income.

Ulvaeus was part of the Swedish pop group in the 1970s and 1980s, and has since co-written several musicals including the hit 'Mamma Mia!' that was made into a recent film.

Chef DiSpirito sambas off 'Dancing with the Stars'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rocco DiSpirito won't be cooking up any more moves on "Dancing with the Stars."

The celebrity chef and his partner, Karina Smirnoff, were eliminated Tuesday from ABC's popular dancing competition. The pair received the judges' lowest score - 18 out of 30 - for their samba routine. Viewer votes and the judges' scores from last week and Monday were combined after injured contestant Misty May-Treanor dropped out of the competition.

"For my final request, I would love it if Bruno could show me how to make my hips move properly," DiSpirito said, prompting flamboyant judge Bruno Tonioli to accompany DiSpirito on the dance floor for a duel hip gyrating session.

Outspoken actress Cloris Leachman joined DiSpirito in the bottom two with the next-to-lowest combined score and votes, while model-actress Brooke Burke remained in the top spot. Her samba earned a 26 from the judges Monday, bringing her two-week total to 54. Burke and her partner, Derek Hough, have maintained first place all season.

Other celebrities in the competition include: singers Lance Bass and Toni Braxton; former NFL star Warren Sapp; Olympic gold medalist Maurice Greene; actor Cody Linley; and actress Susan Lucci. Reality TV star Kim Kardashian, actor Ted McGinley and comedian Jeffrey Ross were dismissed earlier.

AP

In this image released by ABC, Rocco DiSpirito and his dance partner Karina Smirnoff perform on "Dancing With The Stars," on Monday, Oct. 13, 2008 in Los Angeles.

Presley names twins Finley and Harper

NEW YORK (AP)—Lisa Marie Presley has named her newborn twin daughters Finley and Harper.

Cindy Guagenti, a publicist for the 40-year-old singer, confirmed the names Tuesday, a week after Presley, who lives in the Los Angeles area, gave birth by Caesarean section.

Presley is the daughter of Elvis Presley and is married to music producer Michael Lockwood. She has a 19-year-old daughter, Riley, and a 15-year-old son, Benjamin, from her marriage to musician Danny Keough, which ended in 1994. She was briefly married to Michael Jackson and to Nicolas Cage. She married Lockwood in January 2006.

AP

In this Sept. 10, 2007 file photo, Lisa Marie Presley and her husband Michael Lockwood watch the Anna Sui 2008 spring/summer show at Fashion Week in New York.

DJ AM joins Jay-Z on tour in first post-crash show

NEW YORK (AP)—DJ AM, who survived a plane crash last month in South Carolina, will appear on tour with Jay-Z.

DJ AM, whose real name is Adam Goldstein, will join the rap mogul Wednesday at the Hollywood Palladium in Los Angeles, said Jenni Weinman, the celebrity disc jockey's publicist.

It will be his first performance since suffering severe burns in the Sept. 19 crash at the main airport in Columbia that killed four passengers.

"He's the greatest rapper in the world," the 35-year-old disc jockey told People.com. "This is the biggest thing that's happened in my career."

'Please call police' banners are helpful on and off road

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: From time to time you have mentioned how to order "Please Call Police" banners in your column. They are not only a wonderful idea, but also an effective way to assist people with disabilities—a concept that has become meaningful to me since turning 88 last January.

Last winter the power went out and my cell phone charger stopped working. All my phones were dead. Lucky for me, the power came back on in my area by noon, but it didn't in other areas. It can be alarming when we can no longer take charge in these emergencies. My sister checks on me, but when the phone lines went out, the message said "line busy," so she didn't know there was a problem.

I live in a mobile home park where folks take care of each other when we can. I called my neighbor across the street to tell him which window I will put my banner in if I need help, and he asked me if I would order one for him and possibly some for our other neighbors. Thank you for this service, Abby. If you print the ordering information again, it will help a lot of other folks.

ELIZABETH IN COLORADO

DEAR ELIZABETH: I'm glad to oblige. Every year that I have mentioned the "Please Call Police" banners, readers have sent me testimonials relating how handy they can be to have. People usually order two at a time—one for the windshield and another for the rear window of their cars—and keep them in the glove compartment.

This year, in addition to the banners and Mylar blankets, reusable "green" cloth shopping bags (for the ecology-minded) are also being offered. These are ideal for all your daily needs, including marketing.

The items are offered by the Westside Center for Independent Living, a nonprofit organization that helps people with disabilities to live more independent lives. For a $4 contribution, you can order one banner, one Mylar blanket or one "green" (cloth) shopping bag from WCIL Banner, P.O. Box 92501, Los Angeles, CA 90009. (Please include an additional $2 per total order for postage and handling to each address and allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.) For more information and secure ordering online, visit www.wcil.org and click on "Police Banners," "Emergency Blankets" or "Green Bags."

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have decided to sell our house and move south. We plan to purchase a mobile home. I asked our adult children what they thought of our decision.

One son made a quick trip home. Most of what he had to say pertained to issues from the past. One remark stung: He said that my husband and I had not showered or used deodorant on the day of my mother's funeral. True, we didn't shower that morning, but we had the night before. Because we depend on well water and had three extra people in the house, we wouldn't have had enough for all five of us to get a warm shower. We did use deodorant and cologne, and my husband put on aftershave.

We were crushed by our son's comment. I no longer wish to be an overnight guest in his home because I know they will be watching my every move. I would be preoccupied with worry about whether I have body odor. I love my son and our daughter-in-law, but the thought of being around them now makes me uncomfortable.

NOT A SMELLY MOTHER

DEAR NOT: Your son was obviously angry with you and his father when he made that trip to see you. Could it have been because he felt that the house should be a part of his inheritance? Whether or not you bathed or showered on the morning of your mother's funeral is, frankly none of your son's business. What doesn't pass the "sniff test" is that he would throw it up to you at this late date.

I don't blame you for feeling reluctant to be a houseguest in your son's home, nor should you, until he displays a serious attitude adjustment and offers the apology you are due.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

I THINK THE WORST OF THIS IS OVER, SO JUST TRY TO GET SOME SLEEP.
I'M GOING BACK TO BED, BUT GIVE ME A CALL IF YOU FEEL SICK AGAIN, OK? NOW GET SOME REST.
MM HMM.
POOR LITTLE KID.
YECCHHH! THERE IS NOTHING WORSE THAN A SICK ROOMMATE! FACE THAT WAY!
© 1988 Universal Press Syndicate
10/16 WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

HERE I AM IN THE HOMECOMING PARADE
PHOTOS
I GOT TO DRESS UP AND RIDE ON THE FLOAT MY FRATERNITY BUILT
PHOTOS
THAT'S THE BIGGEST POCKET PROTECTOR I'VE EVER SEEN
I'M THE THIRD MECHANICAL PENCIL FROM THE LEFT
PHOTOS
© 2008 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved
www.garfield.com
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
JIM DAVIS 10-16

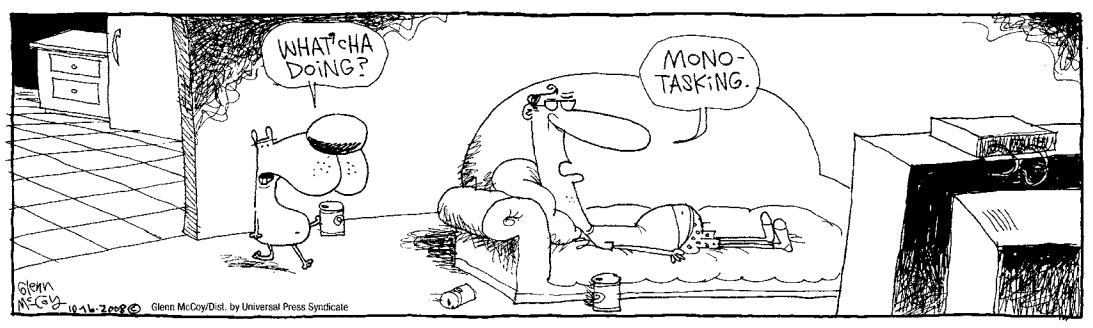
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

10/16
WWW.GOCOMICS.COM
Adam's HOME OFFICE MONEY-SAVING TIPS
REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF COFFEE YOU BUY BY REDUCING THE NUMBER OF COFFEE BREAKS YOU TAKE.
BRIAN BASSET © 2008 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

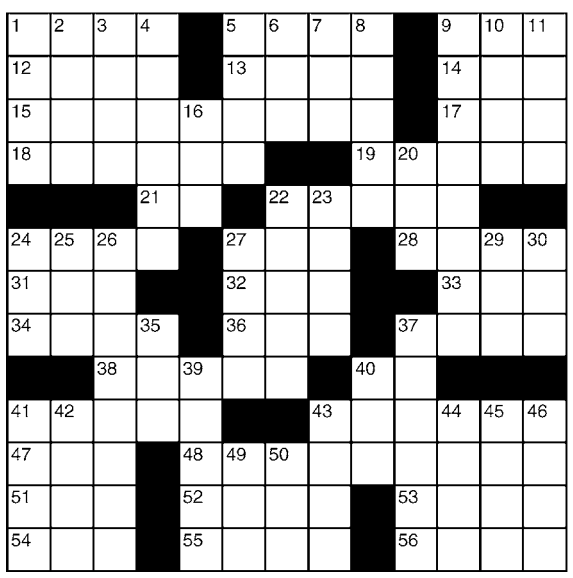
ACROSS
1 Audacious
5 See 6-Down
9 Waste no time
12 Hebrew month
13 Brewery creations
14 Peculiar
15 Breakfast spuds
17 "Family Guy" daughter
18 Tire patterns
19 Adversary
21 Mother
22 Ask (for), as a loan
24 Wan
27 Occupation
28 Shakespeare sobriquet
31 Writer Buscaglia
32 Parisian pal
33 Stickum
34 Dalai —
36 "Of course"
37 Mile fractions
38 Go in
40 Greeting
41 Fibula neighbor
43 Aromatic resin
47 Perp. to vert.
48 Base runner's goal
51 Lamb's dam
52 Exam format
53 Unyielding
54 Gullet
55 Right on the map?
56 Knight's backup

DOWN
1 Thai money
2 Bloodhound's clue
3 Weak, as an excuse
4 So-o-o-o handsome
5 Monkey —
6 With 5-Across, "open sesame" man
7 Spelldown
8 No liability
9 Web site intro
10 The same (Lat.)
11 Provocative
16 Food safety org.
20 Gist
22 Marge's hubby
23 Sacred Egyptian bird
24 Every crumb
25 Vast expanse
26 Domestic beer?
27 Davidson of "The Crying Game"
29 Fish eggs
30 Speck
35 Blackbird
37 Embellishment
39 U.S. resort lake
40 Chance
41 Yon folks
42 "The Music Man" locale
43 Sash
44 Rani's wrapper
45 Covering
46 Clothing store department
49 — pro nobis
50 More, to Manuel

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	E	E	R	■	A	S	P	■	O	G	L	E
E	T	U	I	■	B	A	R	■	R	A	I	D
G	A	R	G	O	Y	L	E	■	B	R	E	D
S	L	O	O	P	S	■	S	K	I	D	D	Y
■	■	■	R	E	M	■	S	I	T	E	■	■
M	P	G	■	C	A	L	■	D	E	N	I	M
B	R	A	S	■	L	E	U	■	D	I	M	E
A	O	R	T	A	■	O	N	S	■	A	P	T
■	■	F	A	T	E	■	S	E	T	■	■	■
S	U	I	T	E	D	■	C	R	O	U	C	H
E	P	E	E	■	G	A	R	B	A	N	Z	O
M	O	L	L	■	A	G	E	■	S	T	A	R
I	N	D	Y	■	R	O	W	■	T	O	R	N

Yesterday's answer 10-16



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kellie Martin, 33; Flea, 46; Tim Robbins, 50; Angela Lansbury, 83

Happy Birthday: Put more effort into all aspects of your personal life. The more you can do to make money from home, the happier you will be. Focus on your health and well-being and your investment in yourself, your home and your life. An older person will offer sound advice. Your numbers are 8, 10, 16, 20, 27, 33, 47

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Show people what you have to offer and how much you are willing to give—that will get you in the door and on to bigger and better things. A partnership can work if you set ground rules before entering into an agreement. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't let anyone bully you. Emotions may be close to the surface, causing some discomfort when dealing with difficult people. Be open-minded and refrain from criticizing and you will come out on top. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You love to chat but today you are likely to divulge information that will give your competition the edge. You can tease but you cannot brag without suffering the consequences. Don't be fooled by someone's interest in you. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Volunteering to do something that will benefit your community or a cause you believe in will lead to a fabulous connection with someone. Expand your interests and increase your experiences. Diversity will lead to new beginnings. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You'll find it difficult to keep emotional things straight in your own head. Do not take chances with love. There is too much at stake to give in to temptation or to make a foolish error in committing to a relationship. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Whatever it takes to win someone's love, support and trust must be on your to-do list. You can secure an important relationship by going beyond the call of duty. A trip for two will bring you closer together and help you bond. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): A legal matter that has been pending should be dealt with now. You stand to get more than you realize if you act fast and catch everyone off-guard. Be creative in the way you approach a new project, demonstrating that you are offering something unique. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Emotional ties will require some adjustments if you want them to continue to work. Don't get angry because someone doesn't understand what you are up against. Consider his or her position—you can bridge the gap between what you know and what's unclear to others. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You will catch on to someone who has been fibbing to avoid a showdown with you. Contain your anger but don't ignore what needs to be done. Diplomacy will help you get your point across and give you an edge. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Show the ones you love how much you actually appreciate them. Your efforts will allow you the leeway you need to complete projects that may not be favored by your friends and family. Taking action will lead to success for you. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You may feel as if you are backed up against a wall emotionally. If someone continually puts you down, reverse the situation and put him or her at arm's length. Travel and communications will suffer from delays and difficulties. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Consider what you've lost and what you've gained from past events. Address a situation that was never resolved. Until you can put it behind you, it will be difficult to feel at peace. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, aggressive and emotionally sensitive. You strive for security, fortune and notoriety. You make the most of your attributes and are in control.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			9	4		2		
			5			7		
4	9							
							2	6
1			6		3			7
3	4							
							8	9
		5			7			
		2		3	6			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	6	3	5	1	8	4	2	7
5	2	4	7	6	9	3	8	1
1	7	8	2	4	3	5	6	9
8	5	1	3	2	4	9	7	6
3	4	2	9	7	6	8	1	5
7	9	6	1	8	5	2	3	4
6	1	5	8	9	2	7	4	3
2	3	7	4	5	1	6	9	8
4	8	9	6	3	7	1	5	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/15

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ODD JOBS **Solution: 8 letters**

S	U	O	E	G	A	R	U	O	C	H	E	C	K	P
A	S	R	E	T	S	E	T	A	S	T	E	R	S	R
N	I	G	N	I	L	L	E	M	S	I	M	P	L	E
I	N	A	W	Y	Y	G	N	I	H	T	O	L	C	P
T	S	N	O	I	T	A	N	I	T	S	E	D	E	A
I	T	I	E	E	R	L	I	G	T	T	M	R	N	R
Z	A	Z	U	A	I	R	A	N	F	(L)	(O)	(O)	(T)	E
I	L	A	Q	T	D	S	E	I	A	H	M	L	R	S
N	L	T	I	I	A	M	L	V	C	M	E	E	E	D
G	I	I	N	N	N	S	I	E	O	E	E	R	P	N
A	N	O	U	G	K	E	K	C	E	L	P	S	A	A
M	G	N	I	S	W	T	N	I	A	P	V	S	I	R
E	E	S	A	S	H	U	N	T	I	N	G	I	R	R
R	S	T	C	U	D	O	R	P	E	R	A	C	N	E
A	N	A	L	Y	Z	E	P	R	O	T	E	C	T	G

© 2008 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 10/16

Analyze, Assignments, Care, Check, Chore, Clothing, Courageous, Destinations, Dirty, Eating, Errands, Game, Hunting, Installing, Lift, Names, Organizations, Paint, Prepare, Products, Protect, Rare, Repair, Revolving, Role, Sanitizing, Simple, Sleep, Smelling, Specialty, Tasks, Tasters, Testers, Tool, Uncommon, Unique, Views

Yesterday's Answer: Beauty

WONDERWORD offers the **Book of Celebrities,** for $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free, 1-800-255-5734, ext. 6688. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution:
Laughing gas

GARAGE/YARD SALE

OFF ISLAND SALE: Generator $450 mtn bike $125 kayak $300 lg sofa $300 loveseat $150 lounge chair $125 metal shelves $100 king bed/mat $350 full futon $100. Lighting, appliances, tools, hardware and more. Priced to sale. 233.0367 or sunmove2008@live.com

AUTOMOBILE

1998 TOYOTA 4RUNNER: One owner. Very fine condition/maintenance. $5700. 233.0367 or sunmove2008@live.com

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water $210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

For Rent-New apartment/Studio type. Only $200/month. Brand new. Fully furnished, quiet & accesible area, 24 hrs water with water heater. Located in Finasisu (across NMC). For more info-pls. call Danny Siu @ 287-2387

MISCELLANEOUS

English lesson American teacher 20 years experience. Afternoon, evening, your home or mine. Call RaeAnn @322-2032.

NEED PROPERTIES
We are looking for all kinds of properties, vacant property, commercial building, house, or apartment for long term lease or for sale. Interested owners, you may visit Yuta Office beside Bank of Guam in San Antonio.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

HeHeHeLIUM

© 2008 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

DANILO T. AGUILAR, F0198
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 505301
First Floor, San Jose Court Bldg.
Cor. Ghiyeghi St. & Wischira Way
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
TELEPHONE: (670) 234-8801
FAX: (670) 234-1251

Attorney for Petitioner
THERESITA BAZA-PERTUDO

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter of the Adoption of **LEI RUSSEL PERTUDO, a minor child,** By, **THERESITA BAZA-PERTUDO,** Petitioner.	FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 08.600 **NOTICE OF HEARING**

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Notice is hereby given that Theresita Baza-Pertudo has filed a verified Petition for the adoption of minor child Lei Russel Pertudo in the Commonwealth Superior Court. The original petition is available for review at the Office of the Clerk of Court at Susupe, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Law Office of Danilo T. Aguilar, P.O. Box 505301, First Floor San Jose Court Bldg., Cor. Ghiyeghi St. & Wischira Way, San Jose Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A hearing on the above-entitled matter will be held on November 6, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in the Superior Court, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 2nd day of October, 2008.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

Subscribe to the CNMI's
First Daily Newspaper
Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007
Guard files sex harassment suit vs principal. PAGE 3
2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PAGE 5
There is still hope for nonimmigrant statu
joins Micronesia
OPINION METER
RELATED NEWS
235- NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday And Sunday Issues:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Red Sox knuckle under, Rays surge to 3-1 lead

BOSTON (AP)—They fluttered in and rocketed out: Three more homers sent sailing over the Green Monster to help the Tampa Bay Rays blow out Boston for the second straight game and move within one win of their first AL pennant.

Evan Longoria hit his rookie-record fifth home run of the playoffs, and Carlos Pena and Willy Aybar also homered off aging knuckleballer Tim Wakefield on Tuesday night to give the Rays a 13-4 victory over the Red Sox that put the defending World Series champions on the brink of elimination.

Carl Crawford tied an AL championship series record with five hits and Andy Sonnanstine pitched 7 1-3 sharp innings as Tampa Bay took a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven playoff. Aybar had four hits and five RBIs.

"You could talk about everybody up and down the lineup, but Carl and Willy really set the tone for us," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "Right now it's kind of contagious. ... I don't want to see us do anything different."

After an off day, James Shields and Game 1 winner Daisuke Matsuzaka are scheduled to pitch Thursday night at Fenway Park in a potential clincher for the surprising Rays.

"It would be nice to finish it here," said Crawford, who rushed back from hand surgery to be ready for the playoffs after missing most of the last two months of the regular season. "We know we're real close now to going to the World Series. A lot of guys won't say it, (but) there's a nice vibe right now."

Tampa Bay had never even approached a .500 record during its first decade in the majors before edging wild-card Boston for the AL East title by two games. But the Rays were poised and powerful against a Red Sox team that has made the playoffs in five of the last six years, advancing to the ALCS four times and winning it all twice.

Facing the 42-year-old Wakefield, the oldest pitcher to start an ALCS game, the league's newest team homered three times in the first three innings to take a 5-0 lead. The Rays scored another in the fifth and blew it open with five more in the sixth when seven straight batters reached base to make it 11-1.

Fans lined up for the exits after the Red Sox went down 1-2-3 in the sixth—the third inning in a row they were retired in order; TV showed horror-master Stephen King reading a book in the stands, bored.

On the field, it was twice as scary.

"Sitting through that wasn't a whole lot of fun," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said. "We've been on the other side. When it happens to you, you've got to get through it the best you can, and we'll need to regroup as quickly as we can."

One night after the Rays hit four homers to beat Boston 9-1, they hit three more and totaled 14 hits against five Red Sox pitchers. Wakefield, who was making his first appearance in 16 days, lasted just 2 2-3 innings, giving up five runs, including Longoria's fifth postseason homer to break the rookie record set by Florida's Miguel Cabrera in 2003.

Red Sox reliever Justin Masterson allowed another run; Manny Delcarmen gave up five more while getting just one out; 42-year-old Mike Timlin gave up two more in the eighth.

"Last night was nice," Crawford said, "but tonight was even better."

Sonnanstine retired 12 consecutive batters in all after Kevin Cash's homer to lead off the third and make it 5-1. The Rays right-hander, who pitched 13 shutout innings against Boston in a pair of September no-decisions, allowed just two hits before David Ortiz's leadoff triple in the seventh.

Ortiz, who had been hitless in his first 12 at-bats in the series, scored on a groundout to make it 11-2, and Boston chased Sonnanstine while adding two more in the eighth.

AP

Tampa Bay Rays center fielder B.J. Upton, right, congratulates his teammate Crawford after defeating the Boston Red Sox 13-4 in Game 4 of the American League baseball championship series in Boston, Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2008.

Boston 3B Mike Lowell out for year, set for hip surgery

BOSTON (AP)—Mike Lowell will undergo surgery on his right hip Monday, depriving the Red Sox of last year's World Series MVP for the rest of their season.

The third baseman, who is not on Boston's roster for the AL championship series, chose to have the surgery as soon as possible so he would have a good chance to be ready for the start of spring training.

"I'm kind of relieved, in a sense, just to get it over," Lowell said in the dugout Tuesday. "I think I was hanging onto something that wasn't really realistic."

Lowell was removed from the playoff roster after Game 3 of the first-round series against Los Angeles, making him ineligible for the ALCS. The Red Sox beat the Angels three games to one to advance.

Boston entered Tuesday night's game against Tampa Bay trailing 2-1 in the best-of-seven ALCS.

Lowell said his hip started bothering him a few weeks before the All-Star break. He was limited to one at-bat in the last 11 regular-season games and went 0-for-8 in two postseason games.

He decided late last week to have the surgery. It will be done in New York.

General manager Theo Epstein told Lowell "there was probably a 99 percent chance I was not on the roster" if the Red Sox get to the World Series, Lowell said before Game 4 against the Rays.

"I don't think we can bank on that one percent and I just didn't want to drag it out and then see if it affects the later part of spring training or even April of next year," he said.

The arthroscopic surgery involves repairing a torn labrum in the hip and a bone spur on the femur as well as checking and possibly fixing a muscle.

"There's no way he was going to be able to play" this year, manager Terry Francona said. "Any additional time that he can have now so he can come to spring training, he really wanted, and I don't blame him."

Doctors have told Lowell that's realistic.

"They've told me they've cleared NFL players for full contact after four months" following similar surgery, he said. "So I guess I'm banking on that."

Lowell had two stints on the disabled list this year and played in just 112 games. He had a sprained left thumb and a strained left side muscle along with the hip injury.

"I was very happy with two months, May and June," he said. "Obviously, disappointed in April because I got hurt early and it was just really a struggle, I'd say, the last three months."

In last year's World Series sweep over the Colorado Rockies, Lowell was 6-for-15 with four RBIs. And in the last two games he went 4-for-9 with a solo homer in the seventh inning of the finale that gave Boston a 3-0 lead in the clinching 4-3 victory.

Lowell said he expected to be released from the hospital Tuesday and spend the next two weeks on crutches.

"I'd love to be in the dugout here (for) Game 1 of the World Series," he said. "That would be good, as long as no foul balls come in."

NBA BRIEFS

Telfair suspended for 3 games after gun charge

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Minnesota Timberwolves point guard Sebastian Telfair was suspended on Tuesday for three games after pleading guilty to criminal possession of a weapon. Telfair was sentenced last month to three years' probation. He was arrested in April 2007 when police found him carrying a loaded gun in his car while he was a member of the Boston Celtics. The Celtics traded him to Minnesota in the deal for Kevin Garnett, and Telfair had a solid and incident-free first season in Minnesota. He signed a three-year, $7.5 million deal this summer to remain with the Timberwolves. He is the top backup to starter Randy Foye. "I've talked to Sebastian about the incident. This is something that happened in the past, and he is looking forward to putting this behind him," Timberwolves vice president of basketball operations Kevin McHale said. "Since he has been a member of the Timberwolves, Sebastian has been a great teammate and has been actively involved in the community. I couldn't be more proud of Sebastian's continued improvement as a basketball player and as a young man." The Timberwolves were in Chicago for a preseason game against the Bulls and Telfair was not immediately available for comment.

Warriors suspend guard Ellis for mo-ped accident

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Monta Ellis knew he was in trouble after he seriously injured his ankle in a mo-ped accident and then lied to the Golden State Warriors about it this summer. The high-scoring guard probably never imagined that trouble would cost him about $3 million—and neither did his coach or the man who drafted him. Warriors president Robert Rowell suspended Ellis for 30 games without pay Saturday for violating his lucrative new contract, a decision that apparently went against the wishes of top basketball executive Chris Mullin and coach Don Nelson. Ellis, who agreed to a six-year deal worth $66 million in July, severely sprained his ankle in a low-speed crash in late August. The 22-year-old then compounded his mistake by telling the Warriors he hurt himself playing pickup ball in his native Mississippi, only coming clean about the accident several days later. Owner Chris Cohan's decision to suspend Ellis seems to expose a rift between the Warriors' top brass and the Mullin-Nelson team, which directed Golden State to its first playoff berth in 13 seasons in 2007, followed by 48 victories last season. When the Warriors opened training camp last month, both Mullin and Nelson were leaning toward allowing Ellis to return without punishment. Cohan and Rowell instead decided to risk alienating the player expected to be the centerpiece of Nelson's up-tempo offense after Baron Davis' defection to the Los Angeles Clippers.

Stern says NBA prepared for economic downturn

BERLIN (AP)—NBA commissioner David Stern said Tuesday that the league is well-positioned to deal with any fallout from the global economic turmoil after cutting 80 jobs. "In anticipation of a slowdown we had stared cutting our work force a bit," Stern said before the New Orleans Hornets played the Washington Wizards in a preseason game at the O2 World arena. "It's our sense we should be very prudent in expanding our work force because we have to see what the economy holds. "On a league-wide basis we are meeting all our financial goals. We are where we want to be," Stern added. Stern again said that the league would stage a regular-season game in Europe before 2012, and also repeated a long-standing prediction that the NBA would someday expand to include franchises in Europe. "Regular-season games are very much in our future in Europe, in either O2 Arena or O2 World," Stern said, referring also to the O2 Arena in London. Besides the game in Berlin, the Hornets and Wizards will play again on Friday in Barcelona, Spain. That follows a two-game series between the New Jersey Nets and Miami Heat in Paris and London.

Cowboys trade for WR Roy Williams

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Roy Williams headed home to Texas on Tuesday in the NFL's biggest trade before the deadline, giving the struggling Dallas Cowboys another proven receiver opposite Terrell Owens.

The winless Detroit Lions traded their unhappy 2004 first-round pick and one-time Pro Bowler for three draft picks, from the first, third and sixth round in 2009. Detroit also gave the Cowboys a seventh-rounder next year.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said he struck the deal two minutes before the NFL trade deadline.

"I'm more happy to be a Dallas Cowboy then when I got my first bike," said Williams, an Odessa native who starred at the University of Texas.

Williams' best season was 2006, when he went to the Pro Bowl after catching 82 passes for 1,310 yards and seven touchdowns. He has 17 catches for 232 yards and a score this season, and has 262 career passes for 3,884 yards and 29 TDs.

Soon after announcing the deal, the Cowboys said that they had given Williams a five-year extension on his contract that was set to expire after this season.

The Cowboys acquired their new star hours after learning they lost another in cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones, whom NFL commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Tuesday for at least four games.

Goodell will determine the full length of the suspension following the Cowboys' game in Washington on Nov. 16. Jones was in repeated legal trouble while with the Tennessee Titans and was involved in an alcohol-related scuffle Oct. 7 with one of his bodyguards at a private party.

AP

In this Sept. 14, 2008 file photo, Detroit Lions receiver Roy Williams (11) is seen during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game at Ford Field in Detroit.

Jerry Jones, who has never shied from adding players with checkered pasts to the Cowboys locker room, made a point Tuesday to mention Williams' "outstanding character, no matter who you talk to."

Williams said the first phone call he received after the trade was from Owens, who has complained recently about not getting enough catches in an offense that lost quarterback Tony Romo this week for perhaps a month with a broken finger in his throwing hand.

Jerry Jones said Owens was "elated and beside himself" upon hearing the trade. Williams said he and T.O. talked about winning.

"We got two guys out there that can really run, they're big, but as you know, both of them can really make spectacular catches," Jones said.

Williams is expected to begin practicing with the Cowboys on Wednesday, and play in their game Sunday at St. Louis.

Williams will line up opposite Owens in an offense that has not had a clear No. 2 receiver since waiving veteran Terry Glenn this summer. Tight end Jason Witten leads the Cowboys with 39 catches and two touchdowns after six games. Owens has 23 catches and 5 TDs.

The Cowboys have filled the gap with Patrick Crayton and Miles Austin. Now they will have two of the NFL's biggest, most physical receivers—both worthy of double coverage.

After the trade, Williams talked as if he had found a new mentor in Owens, whom he made clear was "the No. 1 guy."

"I've never had an older wide receiver to show me the way," Williams said.

Jerry Jones said Tuesday he said he'd been trying to pry Williams from Detroit for two years.

The addition figures to further heighten Super Bowl expectations for the Cowboys (4-2), who are only a game behind the New York Giants in the NFC East but have dropped two of their last three games.

Sunday's overtime loss to Arizona was particularly costly for Dallas. Romo broke his pinky finger and rookie running back Felix Jones sprained a hamstring to end a trying week that began with controversy over Adam Jones' run-in with police.

Williams will probably catch his first passes in Dallas from Brad Johnson, the 40-year-old backup whose last start was in 2006 for Minnesota.

The 26-year-old Williams said it was tough to leave Detroit but said he was ready "to see what the playoffs feel like." Detroit was 21-48 since Williams arrived as a rookie and never made the postseason.

"Going from 0-5 to 4-2, you can't ask for anything better than that," Williams said.

Dallas' 'Pacman' Jones suspended by NFL again

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—Dallas Cowboys cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones once again must earn his way back into the NFL, and it likely will take more than being on his best behavior.

The NFL suspended Jones for at least four games Tuesday for violating the league's personal conduct policy. Commissioner Roger Goodell will determine the full length of the suspension after the Cowboys' game in Washington on Nov. 16.

"If he earns his way to a point that he can be considered to play again, then I would support that," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "Frankly, just as he earned through his behavior the right to get back in and play a few weeks ago, he would have to earn that."

The league said reinstatement will depend on strict compliance with treatment plans by the NFL and the Cowboys and an evaluation by "clinical experts."

"The question really is, can he address his issues he needs to address. He does need treatment," said Jerry Jones, adding any treatment would be voluntary. "I do agree with the commissioner in that he needs to address some things and show that he's aware of that and address those things."

After repeated legal trouble while with the Tennessee Titans, Adam Jones was traded six months ago to Dallas, where he had stayed out of trouble until an alcohol-related scuffle Oct. 7 with one of his bodyguards at a private party.

In a letter to Jones on Tuesday, Goodell cited a "disturbing pattern of behavior and clearly inconsistent with the conditions I set for your continued participation in the NFL."

The disturbance at an upscale Dallas hotel came only six weeks after Goodell reinstated Jones from a 17-month suspension.

"It's terribly disappointing to me that we're dealing with this again and that he's reflecting so poorly on all of the players in this league, which they don't deserve," Goodell said at the NFL meeting in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Goodell said a lifetime ban remained a possibility.

"It's going to be up to Adam and what he does in the following weeks. Getting an evaluation and whatever treatment may be prescribed to him at that point of time," Goodell said. "Part of it is going to be whether he's willing to do some of the things that we are asking him to do."

The player's agent, Worrick Robinson, didn't return messages left with his assistant and on his cell phone.

Goodell said the NFL, if asked, would help set up evaluations.

Asked if substance abuse was involved, Goodell responded, "I don't know. I'm not a doctor. I think that's one of the reasons we want him to get an evaluation."

Jerry Jones called the Oct. 7 incident an "aberration" and said the Cowboys didn't plan any discipline because no team rules were violated. But he knew the NFL might have a different view.

"He was brought back into the league with the understanding that we would have a zero tolerance relative to such things as publicly having a negative issue under any kind of circumstance," Jerry Jones said.

In the latest incident, Dallas police said officers responded around 11 p.m. Oct. 7 and that the matter was over by the time they arrived. Hotel employees had reported hearing a tussle in the men's restroom in the lobby.

The player and the bodyguard, Tommy Jones, said everything was OK. Police said both were driven from the hotel by an acquaintance, and the bodyguard, part of a security detail provided by the Cowboys, didn't want to press charges.

NFL BRIEFS

Former MVP Shaun Alexander signs with Redskins

ASHBURN, Va. (AP)—Former league MVP Shaun Alexander signed with the Washington Redskins on Tuesday, part of a flurry of roster activity in which the team ditched its punter, shuffled its safeties and displayed coach Jim Zorn's strong ties to his Seattle Seahawks roots. Alexander, unemployed since being cut by the Seahawks in April, signed a one-year deal to back up NFL leading rusher Clinton Portis. Portis' usual backup, Ladell Betts, sprained his knee in Sunday's 19-17 loss to the St. Louis Rams and is expected to be sidelined two to four weeks. The Redskins also cut sixth-round draft pick Durant Brooks, who ranks last in the league in punting, and replaced him with former Seattle punter Ryan Plackemeier. Plackemeier won a competition among four free agents flown in to audition at Redskins Park on Tuesday morning. Brooks was technically listed as "waived-injured" because he has a nagging hip flexor and quad strain in his kicking leg, but Zorn made it clear Monday that Brooks' job was in jeopardy because of performance.

Tony Gonzalez staying in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Tony Gonzalez is staying with the Chiefs. Just minutes after the 4 p.m. EDT trade deadline Tuesday, Kansas City coach Herm Edwards said no deal had been struck for the nine-time Pro Bowler. His announcement ended 10 days of tension for the player and his fans in Kansas City, most of whom were hoping he would get what he wanted and be traded to a contender. Gonzalez, 32, asked the Chiefs to explore trade possibilities after deciding the rebuilding Chiefs (1-4) would probably not reach championship caliber before time ran out on his career. Neither Gonzalez nor Chiefs president Carl Peterson was available for comment. Edwards said he did not know how close Peterson came to reaching an agreement with anyone. Arizona, Buffalo and Philadelphia had all expressed interest. Peterson had indicated he would not let Gonzalez, who has been the face of the struggling franchise, go cheaply.

Lions place Kitna on injured reserve

DETROIT (AP)—The winless Detroit Lions placed quarterback Jon Kitna on injured reserve Tuesday, ending his season. The move could raise questions about Kitna's future in Detroit. There had been speculation the Lions (0-5) might trade Kitna and rely instead on backups Dan Orlovsky and Drew Stanton. But a trade didn't materialize. Instead, the Lions sent wide receiver Roy Williams to Dallas for draft picks. Kitna suffered a back injury in a loss to Chicago two weeks ago. He did not play last week against Minnesota. Orlovsky played in Kitna's place against the Vikings. He likely will make his second career start at Houston on Sunday. Kitna declined comment Tuesday, but had told The Associated Press on Monday he expected to play again this season and that his injury wasn't that serious. Also on Monday, Coach Rod Marinelli wouldn't answer questions about Kitna's health.

Jun-Jun Cabatu: Playing out of dad's shadows

Newest Gin King wins Player of the Week honors

MANILA, Philippines—Santiago "Junjun" Cabatu, Jr. is a chip off the old block.

This the 24-year-old forward proved by dishing out a career game last Sunday to help lift Barangay Ginebra over Air21 last Sunday in the PBA Philippine Cup and prop the injury-plagued Kings' surprising surge to a share of the lead.

The son of former 12-year pro "Sonny" also earned for himself the honors as the KFC/Accel PBA Press Corps' Player of the Week for the period October 6-12, for good reason.

The younger Cabatu was directly hired by Welcoat in 2006 before being shipped to Alaska last season and then landed a spot at Barangay Ginebra only after passing a tryout conducted by head coach Jong Uichico.

"We decided on getting Junjun," related Uichico. "We knew magiging malaking tulong siya because for a big guy he can shoot the ball really well."

The 6-foot-4 Cabatu proved the trust on him was well-founded by scoring a career-high 23 points and leading the Kings over the Express, 101-92, and giving the perennial crowd-favorites a 2-0 win-loss record and a tie for the lead with Rain or Shine and Alaska.

That is already quite an achievement for the Kings since they first won over defending champion Sta. Lucia Realty, 89-86, Wednesday last week despite playing minus injury-stricken stalwarts Mark Caguioa, Billy Mamaril, Rafi Reavis and Junthy Valenzuela.

Valenzuela returned last Sunday, but it was Eric Menk's turn to sit it out following a hamstring injury.

To make matters worse, Alex Crisano was hit by a strained calf muscle early in the second half against the Express.

Cabatu then took the time to unload his points that were anchored on 4-of-7 shooting from three-point area, 5-of-8 from two-point land and 1-of-2 from the stripe. He also came through with six rebounds, five assists and two steals along the way.

"He makes our offense look good because he can make the open shot," said Uichico of Cabatu, who pumped in two of his triples in a lethal assault that had the Kings breaking loose from a 90-91 count in the last four minutes of play.

Jun-Jun's performance actually came just two days after his father celebrated his 48th birthday and was two point shy of equaling his Dad's career-high in scoring in a 12-year career that included a stint with Ginebra from 1992 to 1995. ***(www.pba.com.ph)***

Salud amazed at current players' size and heft

MANILA, Philippines—Rodrigo "Rudy" Salud broke up in laughter when told that a remark he made to a friend by his side during the 34th PBA season opening was overheard by someone seated two chairs away.

"Narinig mo pala 'ko?" the flamboyant former PBA commissioner said, still laughing. "Totoo naman. Sina (Mick) Pennisi at (Asi) Taulava na lang yata ang kakilala ko."

Dapper as when he ran the PBA from 1988 to 1992 at the height of the league's glory years, Salud—on the invitation of his protégée, Renauld 'Sonny' Barrios, now the PBA commissioner—attended a special event for only the third time since his retirement and was amazed at the big number of new faces on parade.

"Puro bago na mga mukha," said Salud, who graced the PBA's 25th year anniversary in 2000 and the PBA Hall of Fame ceremony in 2005 where he was one of the pioneer inductees, along with founding commissioner Leo Prieto, legendary coach Virgilio 'Baby' Dalupan, and basketball icon Robert Jaworski, among others.

A couple of heart surgeries, Salud said, has kept him from attending PBA games on a more regular basis.

"Walang akong magawa. Panay-panay ang operasyon sa 'kin, e," the eminent lawyer and former World Boxing Council secretary-general said, almost apologetically.

A man of dazzling eloquence, charismatic persuasion, legal acumen and razor-sharp wit, Salud, even with his recent ailments, has lost none of his inspiring attributes, especially his unique brand of self-deprecating humor.

"Ang edad ng tao pag wala siya kahit anong sakit, age is just a number," Salud, now 70, said, roaring as he delivered the punch line: "Pero yung mga kamukha ko na biyak-biyak na… my days are numbered."

Renowned for crafting the WBC constitution and by-laws, Salud said he keeps himself busy attending to family businesses, exercising daily at home and dropping by occasionally at big-time cock derbies.

"But most of my time is devoted," he added, again laughing, "...to surviving."

At the sidelines with Barrios and U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney for the inaugural game between the Talk 'N Text Tropang Texters and the Coca-Cola Tigers that Saturday, Salud marveled at the height and heft of the current batch of professional players.

"Ang lalaki ng mga players ngayon, ha. I'm amazed," he said. "Bilib talaga ako. Dati eh si Jaworski malaki na katawan non eh. Yun pala payat siya pag nakita mo ngayon. Mada-dwarf siya."

Salud believed, however, that the Big J and his contemporaries were amply compensated for their relative deficiency in bulk.

"Of course, mas maliit nga ang katawan ni Jaworski, pero malaki naman ang utak non!" Salud noted with pride. "Like Philip Cezar, payat ang katawan niya pero ang brains niya ang laki. Sina [Mon] Fernandez din, di ba?" ***(www.pba.com.ph)***

Fil-Taga October Ace set this Sunday

The Fil-Taga Golfers Association will hold its October Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday, Oct. 19, at the Marianas Golf and Country Club in Marpi.

According to tournament director Ted Malaran, show time is set at 11am with tee-off time scheduled 30 minutes later at 11:30am.

Established in 1993, Fil-Taga's tournaments operate under a computer-controlled handicap system that creates parity among players in the A and B Flights.

A Fil-Taga Ace of the Month champion is crowned monthly. Regular tournaments are scheduled once a month, normally every third Sunday. Green fees are in the $35 to $40 price range for most tournaments.

Its 2008-2009 set of officers are led by president Mike Cruz, vice president Jhun Calma, secretary Manny Po, treasurer Arnaldo Guban, and board of directors Fr. Manny Corcuera, Jhun Dela Cruz, Ted Malaran, Gil Faller, Rey Ferraz, Greg De Torres, Rene Batalliones, Nestor Siruelo, and George Sablan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

THIRD

From Page 28

other teams for fourth place, but two squads are ahead of Kimochi on points scored in five games.

Thai One On is in fourth place despite losing to Kimoichi, as the former has 278 points compared to the latter's 266.

The MHS Peers is in fifth with 26 points, while Off Twice is in seventh with 254 points.

Enyophace continued to keep pace with league-leading Acre Roofing after beating MHS Peers in straight sets.

Enyophace secured the win early after topping the first two sets, 21-16, 21-16. The MHS Peers gave Enyophace a good fight in the third set, but still lost, 21-23.

The win improved Enyophace's record to 4-1, a win behind the undefeated Acme Roofing (5-0).

Off Twice also swept MHS 67 Doh-Fins in the first game to recover from their previous loss. Off Twice had a hard time against its foe in the first two set before pulling off a 21-14, 21-17 triumph. The third set was a cruise with Off Twice winning by 13 markers, 21-8.

MHS 67 Doh-Fins is still winless in five games and thus remained at the bottom of the 11-team field.

Only three games were played Thursday night, as PIC had scheduled an event on the sand court. The match between Acme Roofing and Karakuchi will be played on Oct. 2 at 6:30pm. Karakuchi is currently in third place with its 3-1 record.

Karakuchi will play its fifth game tonight against Enyophace at 8:30pm.

Three other games are set for tonight with the MHS Oakies colliding with Off Twice in the first match at 5:30pm, MHS Serves Up! dueling Champ-On at 6:30pm, and MHS Doh-Fins meeting Kimoichi at 7:30pm.

The MHS Oakies are holding a 2-3 record and are hoping to end their two-game losing skid. MHS Serves Up! and Champ-On are both looking to enter the win column after dropping their first four games.

MANNY

From Page 28

serve the win.

Matagolai anchored the Rollers I's comeback in the closing minutes of the first half. He nailed 12 points in the Rollers I's rally to put his team in the lead at halftime, 39-24.

The G-Stars' three points came from a field goal and a free throw from Nate Mateo.

Matagolai was silent in the opening minutes of the second half but again went back to work in the crucial stage of the match, making the Rollers I's last seven points.

Nate Mateo continued to pile up points in the second half, but he had only twin brother—Dan—helping him out on offense.

In contrast, the Rollers I hardly felt Matagolai's sluggish start in the second half, as Albert Camacho, J.R. Concepcion, Rainier Deleon Guerrero, and Jomar Danas stepped up to keep their team afloat.

Danas contributed nine points, while Camacho made all his six points in the second half. Concepcion and Deleon Guerrero combined for eight points.

Nate Mateo finished with 28 points, while Dan added 22. The rest of the G-Stars players combined for only nine points.

Besides Matagolai, seven Rollers I players made it into the scoreboard and tallied a combined 36 points.

The Rotary caging will conclude its regular season tomorrow and will start the playoffs on Monday.

The playoff round will have a single-elimination format with only the Top 8 teams advancing to the next round.

The playoff cast is already complete and the last two games in the regular season will determine the playoff pairings and the pennant winner.

Unbeaten teams—the CNMI Junior Nationals and the San Antonio Sixers—will duel for the pennant today.

Joining them in the playoffs are the G-Stars, Suns, Saints, Kontenders, Rollers I, and the Southern Sonics.

The first round of the playoffs will have the No. 1 team battling the No. 8 squad, No. 2 vs. No. 7, No. 3 vs. No. 6, and No. 4 vs. No. 5.

Rollers I 67 – Matagolai 31, Danas 9, A. Camacho 6, Deleon Guerrero 5, Paez 3, Concepcion 3, E. Camacho 2.

G-Stars 60 – N. Mateo 28, D. Mateo 22, Rangamar 4, D. Palacios 2, Kenty 2, Jung 1.

Scoring by halves: 39-34, 67-60.

Referees: Gilbert Espinosa and Eric Artillaga.

SSC

From Page 28

when SSC swimmers were pitted against Tsunami Saipan in a tournament last June.

"I'm very excited to see how the kids perform after a couple months of training," said Blasberg.

Actually, another SSC coach—Mike Villagomez—will be debuting in the dual meet.

Blasberg said SSC hired Villagomez as co-coach recently to ensure an effective training schedule for SSC swimmers.

"We're splitting the responsibility so that the schedule is a little more manageable as we both teach full time in addition to coaching," said Blasberg, who teaches at Marianas High School.

Blasberg is conducting the training sessions for SSC swimmers every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, while Villagomez is in charge every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Blasberg said he and Villagomez are expecting new personal best times from their swimmers.

"Mike and I have witnessed how SSC swimmers work hard in practice and it's time for their hard work to pay off," Blasberg said.

"They are excited for the chance to race and compete, it's hard on our island to hold a lot of competitions so the kids really look forward to this kind of tournament. I think the swimmers are just as anxious as I am to see what they can do. Times have consistently been dropping in practices, as we continue to work on stroke efficiency, as well as improving strength and endurance. I know several of our swimmers are hoping to break personal best times from last season, and this is their first chance to do it," he added.

Meanwhile, Blasberg announced that SSC has a new website: saipanswimclub.com.

He said schedule of events and practices, and other details about the club will be posted on the website.

This Saturday's dual meet will start at 8am. It will be one of the many meets that SSC and Tsunami Saipan will be holding to provide their swimmers venues to improve their times.

The meet was originally set for last month, but low water level at the Marpi pool due to the rolling power outages forced organizers to reschedule the event.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

PBA STANDINGS

Alaska	2	0	1.000
Ginebra	2	0	1.000
Rain or Shine	2	0	1.000
Talk N Text	2	1	0.667
Purefoods	1	1	0.500
San Miguel	1	1	0.500
Sta. Lucia	1	1	0.500
Coca-Cola	0	2	0.000
Red Bull	0	2	0.000
Air21	0	3	0.000

LOCAL SCORES

NMIVA Standings

Acme Roofing	5	0
Enyphace	4	1
Karakuchi	3	1
Thai One On	3	2
MHS Peers	3	2
Kimoichi	3	2
Off Twice	3	2
MHS Oakies	2	3
MHS 67 Doh-Fins	0	4
Champ-On	0	4
MHS Serves Up!	0	5

Marianas Friendship Cup/Large Ball Ping-Pong Tournament

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Saipan, Tinian, Guam, and Japan players pose for a group photo before the start of the Large Ball Ping-Pong Tournament Friday at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Participants in the 10th Marianas Friendship Cup gather together for a dinner after the tournament Sunday night at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

The Top 3 placers in the singles and doubles event in 10th Marianas Friendship Cup held over the weekend at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Asian Games gold medalist Hiroyuki Abe waits for the ball during a doubles match in the Large Ball Ping-Pong Tournament Friday at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

The Top 3 winners in the team event of the Large Ball Ping-Pong Tournament Friday at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino are all smiles after receiving their medals.

Hiroyuki Abe, standing sixth from left, poses with teammates as well as Saipan and Guam ping-pong players before boarding a flight to Tinian Thursday at the domestic airport.

Players from Saipan, Japan, and Guam took a flight to Tinian a few minutes after Hiroyuki Abe and 11 other Japanese ping-pong players arrived on Saipan.

Cowboys trade for WR Roy Williams

Roy Williams headed home to Texas on Tuesday in the NFL's biggest trade before the deadline, giving the struggling Dallas Cowboys another proven receiver opposite Terrell Owens.

25

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Red Sox knuckle under, Rays surge to 3-1 lead

They fluttered in and rocketed out: Three more homers sent sailing over the Green Monster to help the Tampa Bay Rays blow out Boston for the second straight game and move within one win of their first AL pennant.

24

Third in a row for Kimoichi

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kimoichi nailed its third straight win in the 2008 Miller Lite Four-Person Beach Volleyball League after outclassing Thai On One Tuesday night at the Pacific Islands Club sand court.

Kimoichi won two of its three-set match against the depleted Thai On One to improve to a 3-2 win-loss record.

A 21-15 victory in the first set gave Kimoichi a good start, but it failed to sustain its momentum in the second set, bowing to Thai On One, 16-21. Kimoichi regained its bearings in the third set, taking advantage of Thai On One's tired players, 21-11.

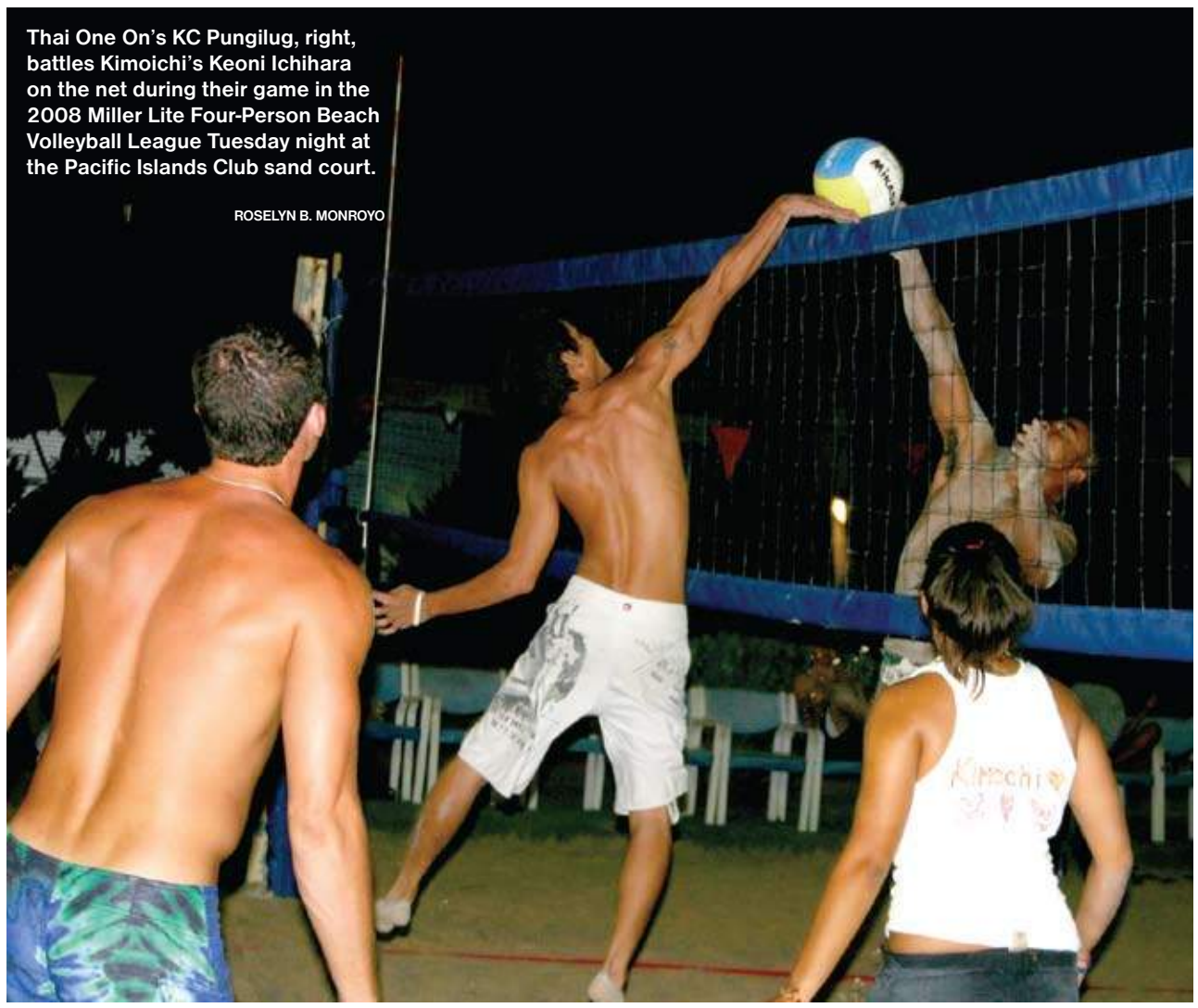
Thai On One missed Natalie Hill, Nick Swaim, and Laurie Peterka forcing its other spikers to play extended minutes.

Kimoichi had a solid lineup with Keoni Chariton, Clark Boswell, Jeff Cloud, Jessica Uematsu, Kegn Hall, and Louise Oakley around.

The victory moved Kimoichi from seventh to sixth place in the team standings.

Actually, Kimoichi is tied with four

See THIRD on Page 26



Thai One On's KC Pungilug, right, battles Kimoichi's Keoni Ichihara on the net during their game in the 2008 Miller Lite Four-Person Beach Volleyball League Tuesday night at the Pacific Islands Club sand court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Manny Matagolai lifts Rollers I past G-Stars

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Rollers I snapped the G-Stars' four-game winning run in the 2008 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League, recording a 67-60 victory Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Manny Matagolai erupted for 31 points, starting the Rollers I's rally in the closing minutes of the first half en route to lifting his team to a seven-point win.

The victory was the Rollers I's third in a row and fourth in seven games putting them in a tie for third place with the G-Stars.

The Rollers I was closing out its regular season assignment last night, battling the Chalan Kanoa Saints. The G-Stars will play the CNMI Junior Nationals tomorrow for their last game in the round-robin regular season.

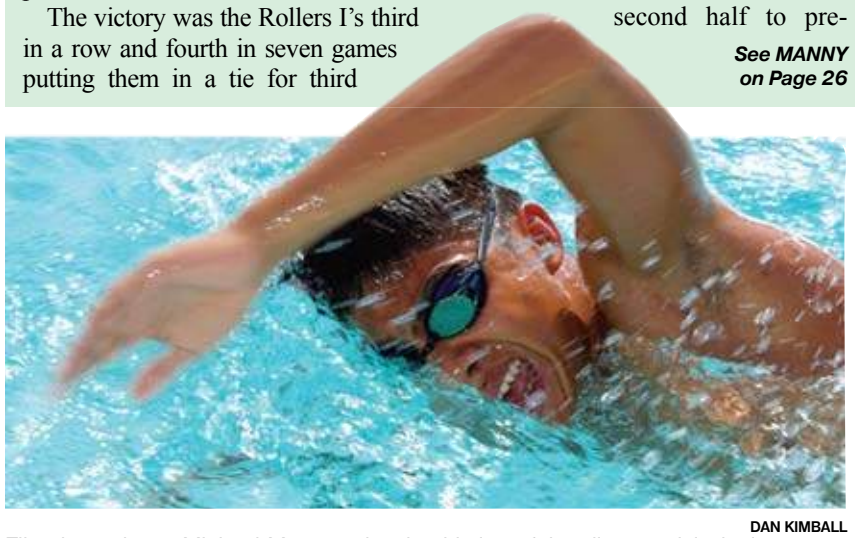
The G-Stars had a strong chance of extending their winning streak to five as they led by as much as 12 points in the first half, 31-19.

But the Rollers I had a big 20-3 windup in the last five minutes of the second half to grab the driver's seat. The team then hanged in there in the second half to pre-

See MANNY on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The G-Stars' Nate Mateo loses his balance, as he collides with a Rollers I defender during their game in the Rotary caging Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



DAN KIMBALL

File photo shows Michael Moran swimming his leg of the silver medal-winning 200m freestyle relay during the 2008 Guam Swimming Championships.

SSC swimmers all set for dual meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club will have 13 swimmers ready to plunge into action in a dual meet with Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan this Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

The list includes Andrew and Grace Kimball, Michael Moran, Bryce Daly, Abigail Martinsen, Blair Nicholls, Junior Pamaran, Lester Lapuz, Rena Son, Victoria Chentsova, Kento Akimaru, Selyna Leon Guerrero, and Keanna Villagomez.

This weekend's tournament is sort of a debut for SSC head coach Michael Blasberg since taking over the coaching chores from Michael Stewart, more than three months ago.

Stewart was still around and helping Blasberg learn the ropes on the team

See SSC on Page 26

Jeong wins October ace

Yu Su Jeong won the CNMI Women's Golf Association October Ace of the Month Tournament held last Saturday, Oct. 11, at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course.

Jeong came away with the day's best net score of 69 after carding a 44 in the front nine and a 43 in the back for a pre-handicap score of 87. The South Korean lady golfer sports an 18 handicap.

The mother-and-daughter tandem of Noriko and Yuko Togawa were tied at second with an identical net score of 73. The latter actually shot the day's lowest gross score with her 75, built around a 35-40 back and front nine. The former, meanwhile, shot a 40-40 for a gross score of 80.

Wang Ching Lin and Margaret Tenorio completed the Top 5 with net scores of 74 and 79, respectively. The 12-handicap Lin improved her 88 gross (45-43), while Tenorio came away with a monster gross score of 111 (58-53) but was saved by her 32 handicap.

A total of 20 players took part in CWGA's October Ace last weekend. The rest of the players, with their net scores in parenthesis, are as follows: Kyung A Yung (81), Bennett Seman (81), Lou Kim (83), Ukita Terue (83), Sherlyn Jones (85), Dolores Yamaguchi (86), Seo Kyung Ran (88), Lorraine Babauta (89), and Matilda Hocog (95).

Three members—Masayo Miyamoto, Chang Eun Ae, and Pil Sun Kitami—all wound up with identical net scores of 77, but failed to submit their scorecards.

Ming Hua Yoon also took part in the tournament and shot a gross of 91 (45-45). She, however, has no handicap assigned to her yet.

Established in March 2007, CWGA is a nonprofit organization founded to promote, encourage, and introduce women to the sport of golf in the CNMI.

The organization intends to accomplish the following: 1. Promote civic and community interest in golf; 2. Establish and encourage competition and good sportsmanship; 3. Promote and provide social functions of the members and their families; 4. Promote youth golf activities; and 5. To do any or all things necessary and proper to accomplish its purpose and intention.

CWGA also commits its members to abide by a set of values that will further enrich a golfer's performance, attitude, and conduct adopted form the USA Junior Golf Association.

The set of values members of CWGA are committed to faithfully are as follows: perseverance; sportsmanship; respect; honesty; judgment; responsibility; reliance; courtesy; and sincerity. ***(Mark Rabago)***